

Hafa Adai!

NMC NextGen scholars publish soil quality study conducted on Saipan. **PAGE 2**  
Saipan Community School Concert Band presents 'Places.' **PAGE 5**

\$1

# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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## MB Capital LLC chooses Sheraton

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES  
kimberly\_esmores@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

After nearly four months since the Hyatt Regency Saipan property closed its doors following over 40 years of service, the property is back in operation under a new name: Sheraton.  
*See SHERATON on Page 4*



OFFICE OF THE CNMI GOVERNOR

MB Capital LLC president David Hood led the unveiling of the new Sheraton Hotel Saipan and he was joined by his general manager Gloria Cavanagh, members of the Legislature, Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang, tourism stakeholders, and members of the Saipan community.

## 902 talks begin today



By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES  
kimberly\_esmores@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The long awaited 902 consultations between the CNMI administration and the U.S. administration is officially set to begin today.

In an interview with Gov. Arnold I. Palacios  
*See TALKS on Page 4*



## Oct. 24 proclaimed as World Polio Awareness Day

RACQUEL FLOYD

Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang, eighth from the front left, poses with Rotary Club of Saipan members after the proclamation signing designating Oct. 24 as World Polio Awareness Day yesterday at the Azucena Room of Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

By RACQUEL H. FLOYD  
raxfloyd@gmail.com  
CORRESPONDENT

Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang proclaimed Oct. 24, 2024 as World Polio Awareness Day yesterday afternoon during the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Azucena Room in Crowne Plaza Resort.

*See POLIO on Page 4*



RACQUEL FLOYD

Rotary Club of Saipan vice president Brian Clayton reads the World Polio Awareness Day proclamation. Seated from left is Rotary Club president Joann Aquino and Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang.

## Torres: Work programs vital for inmates

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES  
kimberly\_esmores@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Department of Corrections Commissioner Anthony Torres is in full support of

the House Standing Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations' unanimous decision

to pass House Bill 23-64, House Substitute 1 which essentially authorizes the Department of Corrections

*See TORRES on Page 4*



Torres

## INSIDE



### BUSINESS

Saipan Chamber of Commerce's November general membership meeting will feature a special announcement by MB Capital Corp. general manager Gloria Cavanagh and a special presentation by MANGO Communications and Operations manager Shawna Babauta.

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### WORLD

The United States "will get Ukraine what it needs" to fight its war with Russia, U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said on an unannounced visit to Kyiv on Monday.

**PAGE 10**



### LIFE & STYLE

King Charles III ends the first visit to Australia by a reigning British monarch in 13 years Tuesday with anti-monarchists hoping his journey is a step toward an Australian citizen becoming head of state.

**PAGE 10**



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# NMC NextGen scholars publish soil quality study conducted on Saipan

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Guam	• Mangilao
	• Hagåtña
	• Harmon
Saipan	• Dandan
	• Puerto Rico

Oct. 24

4pm - 6pm  
While supplies last

VISA



# DIESEL EMISSIONS REDUCTION ACT (DERA)



DERA grants and rebates, administered and awarded by the US EPA, are intended to protect human health and improve air quality by reducing harmful emissions from diesel engines.

The DERA grant releases competitive and non-competitive funding opportunities on a yearly basis. Interested parties may contact the BECQ DEQ Clean Air Program to inquire about equipment eligibility and other program guidelines and requirements.

Selected recipients may receive funding that covers up to 100% of the costs to replace existing diesel-powered vehicles, equipment, or engines!



## WHAT IS DIESEL EXHAUST?

**Diesel is a type of fuel derived from crude oil.**

Diesel exhaust is produced from the burning of diesel fuel in most large engines, including trucks, buses, ships, construction and farm equipment, generators, and in some cars. It is a mixture of gases, vapors, and fine particulates that are harmful to both human health and the environment.



**Short term exposure** to diesel exhaust can cause coughs, headaches, nausea, allergic reactions causing asthma, and irritation of the eyes, nose, throat, and respiratory tract. **Long term exposure** increases the risk for serious health effects such as lung cancer.



## WAYS TO REDUCE YOUR EXPOSURE TO DIESEL EXHAUST

- Limit the amount of time you spend near running engines.
- If diesel fuel is necessary, choose Ultra-Low Sulfur Diesel.
- Service your engines regularly to reduce exhaust fumes. If possible, replace old diesel engines.
- Report excessive diesel smoke to the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality!



2006 Ford New Holland Tractor



2022 John Deere Tractor



## DERA FOR CNMI



- In 2022, the BECQ Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) applied for and received the DERA State Grant, with the Rota Department of Lands and Natural Resources as the sub-awardee to replace their 2006 Ford New Holland tractor.
- The 2006 Ford New Holland tractor with a Tier 1 engine was replaced by a 2022 John Deere tractor with a Tier 4 engine.
- Tier 4 certified engines meet EPA's highest emission standards by significantly reducing air pollution, specifically emissions of particulate matter (PM) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx) to near zero levels.

For more information, please contact the DEQ Clean Air Program at  
670-664-8512 or email [deq.air@becq.gov.mp](mailto:deq.air@becq.gov.mp)



# NWS monitoring two disturbances in vicinity of Marianas

The National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam is closely monitoring two disturbances—Invests 97W and 98W—and forecasting their eventual merger southeast of Guam.

“Little has changed in the past 24 hours regarding the potential for tropical development near the Marianas; however, we do have two areas that are now labeled Invests 97W and 98W

by the JTWC. 97W is loosely centered west of the Marianas near 15N142E, and is drifting south southeast. 98W is centered north of Chuuk near 10N152E and is drifting westward.”

NWS said these two disturbances are expected to converge somewhere near or southeast of Guam last night or Wednesday before slowly becoming better organized and heading north or

northwest. While showers and thunderstorms will cluster near 97W and the eventual 97W-98W merger, drier conditions could actually spread into the Marianas from the north Wednesday and Thursday. By late week, as the merged disturbance becomes better organized and heads north or northwest, the potential for heavy rains and strong gusty winds will remain highly depen-

dent on the exact track with a sharp gradient in wind/rainfall potential aligned near the islands.

Meanwhile, wet and gusty southwest monsoon flow continued over Yap and Palau last and then again over the weekend. Meanwhile, showers and thunderstorms are exiting Kosrae and Pohnpei as surface trough is heading west.

Across Yap and Palau, strong southwesterly monsoon flow will continue through last night, occasionally bringing gusts to around 35 mph. Conditions will briefly subside Wednesday before showers and winds increase across Yap and then at Palau with a redevelopment of a strong westerly monsoon flow slated for the weekend.

Farther east, a surface trough near Pohnpei continues to march westward. Showers, thunderstorms, and gusts to 30 mph will be possible in the more vigorous convection today near Pohnpei, though conditions are already steadily improving across Kosrae and Majuro, followed by Pohnpei last night. Weakened winds and patchy showers are expected the next several days for the region with no organized disturbances expected into the weekend, except for Chuuk where southwesterly monsoon winds and showers could spread into the area over the weekend.

NWS advised the public to stay up to date with the latest forecasts at [weather.gov/gum](http://weather.gov/gum). *(Saipan Tribune)*

## TORRES

From page 1

to pay inmates for their labor.

Last week, during a JGO committee meeting, Rep. Manny Gregory Tenorio Castro (Ind-Saipan) offered a floor amendment for the adoption of House Bill 23-64, HS1, a bill aimed at authorizing the DOC to pay inmates for work performed while incarcerated.

By a unanimous vote, the bill, with Castro’s proposed amendments, passed the committee and is expected to be brought before the House body next week for a vote.

The legislation would essentially give the DOC commissioner the authority and flexibility to promulgate regulations and policies to establish a system and process for paying inmates

when there is adequate funding.

The commissioner would have a ceiling of \$1 per hour.

An inmate would start with \$.25 per hour and work up to that \$1, based on their work performance and good conduct.

As an example of acquiring funding, Torres uses the Department of Public Works as an example.

“Say our Commonwealth through the Department of Public Works receives \$13 million of federal funding to pave the road leading up to Mt. Tapochau. Well, our Outreach Program with five officers and 30 participants can be contracted by DPW to work a portion of the project for \$4 million. A portion of that \$4 million would be set aside for inmate pay and the rest to help sustain our program and pay for other expenses like staff and inmate uniforms, evidenced based

programs, equipment, utilities, staff training, etc. While incarcerated, with good conduct coupled with psychology programming and acquiring job certifications in the trades industry, these participants would be set up for a successful reentry into the community with a solid job placement in DPW or in the private sector,” he said.

Torres expressed his support for this legislation stating that often many view incarceration solely through the lens of punishment, however it’s crucial to consider the profound impact work programs and the ability to earn wages can have on individuals behind bars and the community when they return home.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## TALKS

From page 1

Palacios yesterday, he shared that U.S. President Joseph Biden’s appointed representative, assistant secretary of the Interior Carmen G. Cantor, has arrived in the CNMI for the long-awaited consultations between the governments of the CNMI and the United States pursuant to Section 902 of the Covenant also known as “902 talks”.

According to Palacios, discussions with Cantor will span two days and updates will be released once available.

“Carmen Cantor is coming to Saipan, she’s the President’s representative. This will be the official discussions. We will be having our talks starting [today] and we will be issuing press releases and statements at the end of [each] day. It’s going to be a two-day meeting,” he said.

Due to the sensitivity of the matter, Palacios was unable to divulge much details about the upcoming meeting.

“There’s a lot of sensitive issues

that still need to be worked out, so I don’t want to get ahead of myself to give respect and courtesy to the federal side. When they all do show up, we are going to be having this conversation and how to approach,” he said.

When asked what the highlight of the conversations will be, Palacios said most likely Section 7 of the CNMI Covenant.

“Section 7 of our Covenant will be discussed, and it encompasses a lot including economic development, infrastructure, financial assistance, so we will be keeping our focus on that. That is the immediate focus. We don’t have a lot of time for these discussions, we only have two months before closing it out and coming up with an agreement. We want to work hard,” he said.

Last July, President Joseph Biden responded to the CNMI’s request to initiate consultations between the governments of the CNMI and the United States pursuant to Section 902 of the Covenant to “establish the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in political union

with the U.S.”

As part of his response, Biden officially appointed Cantor as his representative for the 902 consultations.

In an interview with Palacios last August, he shared that he has chosen a few individuals to accompany him for these talks.

“From our team it’s going to be Mike Sablan from Triple J (who will be handling the technical aspects), then we have Wesley Bogdan who will serve as one of our legal counsels. We will, of course, have other legal counsels looking at other things to make sure everything is running smoothly. Then there will be other technical people from my staff like Tina Sablan, Glenn Hunter, and Frankie Elliptico. Then we have of course the Legislature,” he said.

Palacios said he will also be choosing representatives from Tinian and Rota to join the 902 consultations to ensure Tinian and Rota have a voice in the conversation.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## POLIO

From page 1

Rotary Club vice president Brian Clayton read the proclamation and emphasized that polio has killed and paralyzed a multitude of children for thousands of years.

“The virus that cause poliomyelitis virus has paralyzed and killed many of the world’s children for thousands of years. The only way to defeat this terrible virus is through vaccination of all of the world’s children against polio.”

Clayton added that since 1979,

Rotary International, including the Rotary Club of Saipan, working with Rotary Foundation PolioPlus and other international organizations and governments, have been dedicated to the total eradication of the virus infection worldwide.

While the international effort for polio vaccination achieved the elimination of polio from the islands of the Western Pacific by October 2000, some children are still getting this disease, and the Rotary Club of Saipan has donated a total amount of \$106,734 to the Rotary Foundation PolioPlus which goes entirely to the funding of polio vaccinations.

Apatang then concluded that the proclamation aims to ensure a better future for the world.

“As we conclude this proclamation ahead of World Polio Day, let it serve as both a reflection on the progress made and a call to action. I urge all citizens to stay informed, support global vaccination efforts, and raise awareness about the ongoing fight against polio. Together, through education, advocacy, and community involvement, we can ensure that future generations live in a world where polio is a disease of the past,” he said.

The proclamation signing ended with a group photo.

## SHERATON

From page 1

MB Capital LLC, the new operator of the former Hyatt Regency Saipan, officially announced that the property has been rebranded under the Marriot brand and is now a Sheraton.

David Hood, president of MB Capital, led the unveiling and he was joined by his general manager Gloria Cavanagh, members of the Legislature, Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang, tourism stakeholders, and members of the Saipan community.

In an interview with Hood following the unveiling, he excitedly shared that after months of pondering between the Hilton brand and Marriot’s Sheraton, MB Capital finally made a decision this month and signed a memorandum of understanding with Sheraton this week.

Now, the CNMI’s first Sheraton hotel is expected to open its doors to the public come Nov. 25.

“Honestly, they both were top notch. It was a very difficult decision. We could have made the decision a month ago, but we just kept looking at all the specifics and I just think the Sheraton is a better fit for the CNMI. The Sheraton was super excited about the property, so their enthusiasm was just off the charts and that made a big difference for me, because that’s how I feel too,” he said.

“We’re going to try to open on Nov. 25, in time for Thanksgiving. We’ll only be opening the Regency Club for now, but it will not be called the Regency Club anymore, maybe the Royalty Club or something like that. It’ll have the same format,” he said.

As for renovations, Hood expressed that will be later into the future.

“So the renovations won’t start until probably next year because we still have to go through a plan revision. There’s no plans for the renovation yet. So, we have to go through all that process. that would probably be toward the end of the year 2025 or 2026, but we’ll still be open,” he shared.

Meanwhile, Hood also excitedly shared that MB Capital has opened back up the popular Miyako restaurant and it has been well received by the community.

“We’ve been open now for four days and it’s been full. People are super excited. We brought in some fresh salmon from Norway, so people are super excited about that, just by itself. It’s fun to watch. I’m excited to

be here. Welcome back, CNMI, and we look forward to seeing everybody here,” said Hood.

In a statement from Palacios, he shared that he is elated that the former Hyatt Regency will be back in operation under the Sheraton brand.

“I’m elated and I think everyone else is elated and relieved that we are going to get a [new] brand. Everybody was kind of depressed when Hyatt walked out of here, but it’s a new day and this is a new group of people that that we know, we have confidence in, and we’re going to make things work for this community,” he said.

Palacios added that his administration will do its best to support MB Capital and the new Sheraton hotel.

“We have Mr. Hood and I know he’s got a team and their hearts are committed to the Commonwealth [as] these folks are from the Commonwealth. So, we believe that they’re going to give it their best and the government will be with them throughout whether it’s helping with marketing or whether it’s helping with incentives. We will really try to make this work for us,” he said.

“This hotel was iconic for the Commonwealth, so when Hyatt decided to leave, it was like a punch in the gut for everybody, including myself. I lost a lot of sleep thinking about this and what’s going to come next but we were patient. I had confidence that we were going to get something done and I’m glad that we got it done sooner rather than later. Dave and the team are right on top of it,” Palacios added.

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion also shared that the MVA is very excited with the announcement by MB Capital of the Sheraton brand’s entry into the CNMI.

“Their acquisition of the former Hyatt Regency and quick action in finding an alternative brand to take over is commendable. The Sheraton is part of the Premium line of hotels in the larger Marriott International group, the largest hotel company in the world by number of rooms. The Marriott’s loyalty program, Marriott BonVoy, has roughly 200 million members worldwide, a tremendously valuable network for our tourism industry as Saipan and the Marianas will be advertised globally simply by having this brand on our shores. We congratulate the owners and the Sheraton brand on this momentous occasion. This bodes well for the future of the CNMI tourism industry,” he said.



Saipan Community School Concert Band presents ‘Places’

The Saipan Community School Concert Band is proud to present its fall concert “Places: A Concert About Places” on Thursday, Oct. 24, 6:30pm in the SCS Chapel.

This musical journey will transport the audience through various places around the world, with pieces that reflect cultural heritage, geographic beauty, and timeless traditions.

The program will include a variety of well-loved compositions such as “Norse Song” by Robert Schumann, “Moscow Nights,” “New World Salute,” and a patriotic medley in “The Red, The White, and The Blues.” The evening will also feature selections from “Peter and the Wolf” and “African Sketches,” showcasing the rich diversity of musical traditions from around the globe.

The concert will also showcase a solo performance by clarinetist Vivian Chung during “St. Louis Blues,” ar-



File photo of the Saipan Community School Concert Band in the SCS Chapel. The band will hold “Places: A Concert About Places” this coming Thursday.

ranged by Paul Jennings.

The program will be performed by the Advanced Band, Intermediate Band, and Beginning Band, with special guest performers joining the advanced section. The performers include a talented group of students from various grades, some of whom will be debuting their skills on stage for the first time. The band students have worked diligently to prepare for this performance, and they

are excited to share their love of music with the community.

Advanced Band performers

■ Flutes: Jina Chun, Yoon Sung Choi, Junwoo Kwon, Chloe Lee, Sehwa Lim, Aileen Kim, and special guest Celine Park

■ Clarinets: Hui An, Vivian Chung, Seong Woo Lee, Claire Oh, Hiyori Okuma, Fiona Yu, and special guest

Donavan Tudela

■ Bass Clarinet: Melvin Reyes

■ Alto Saxophone: Elijah Pangelinan, and special guest David Park

■ Tenor Saxophone: Vivian Chung

■ Trumpets: Jeordan Buduan, Josh McDonald, Sam Pangelinan, Lennox Sablan, and special guest Jihun Park,

■ Percussion: Vivian Chung, Iyani Muna, Keavene Punzalan, Amethyst Winkfield, Fiona Yu

Intermediate Band performers

RICHARD L. JOHNSON  
BLAIR STERLING JOHNSON & MARTINEZ  
A Professional Corporation  
238 Archbishop Flores St. Ste. 1008  
Hagåtña, Guam 96910-5205  
Telephone: (671) 477-7857  
Facsimile: (672) 472-4290  
E-mail: rjohnson@bsjmlaw.com

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Attorneys for Plaintiff  
First Hawaiian Bank

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

FIRST HAWAIIAN BANK, a Hawaii Corporation, Plaintiff, v. TIANCHI CORPORATION, a Northern Mariana Islands Corporation and YOUNG FU HONG, Defendants.

TO YONG FU HONG  
PMB 498C BOX 10003  
Saipan, MP 96950:

A lawsuit has been filed against you. Within 21 days after the last publication date of this amended summons you must serve on the plaintiff an answer to the FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT or a motion under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. A copy of the FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT has been delivered to the CNMI Office of the Attorney General. The answer or motion must be served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's office, whose name and address are:

VINCENT J. SEMAN  
SEMAN LAW OFFICES, LLC  
JET Realty Bldg., Suite 204  
P.O. Box 10001 PMB 168  
Saipan, MP 96950

If you fail to respond, judgement by default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT. You must file your answer or motion with the court.

Dated: September 27, 2024

CLERK OF COURT

/s/

Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk

■ Flutes: Aileen Kim, Sehwa Lim

■ Clarinets: Antonio Heras, Aileen Kim, Amethyst Winkfield, Fiona Yu

■ Trumpets: Jeordan Buduan, Lennox Sablan

■ Percussion: Troy Aldan, Sera Alvarez, Amethyst Winkfield

Beginning Band performers

■ Flutes: Onyu Seok, Vivian So

■ Clarinet: Aiko Tenorio

■ Trumpet: Johnson He

The Saipan Community School invites parents, families, and the broader community to

join us for this special evening of music. This event celebrates the hard work and dedication of the students and their amazing band director Ruthi Fruit, as well as the vibrant musical traditions of over 35 years at SCS that they represent.

If you are interested in learning more about Saipan Community School and the learning opportunities we offer from kindergarten through 8th grade, contact Amanda Dunn, principal via email at principal@saipan-communityschool.com call SCS offices at (670) 234-6687 or visit us on Beach Road in Susupe. (PR)

Tinian’s Gineptin Ha’anen Taga Festival cancelled

The Gineptin Ha’anen Taga Festival on Tinian has been cancelled due to unfavorable weather conditions expected in the Northern Mariana Islands this week.

This decision was made with the safety and well-being of the

island community in mind.

“We understand the excitement and anticipation surrounding this beloved event, and we sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused to sponsors, participants, vendors, and attendees. We ap-

preciate your understanding and support. Please stay tuned for updates on future events and activities. Thank you for your cooperation and stay safe, CNMI!” said organizers of the Gineptin Ha’anen Taga Festival in a statement. (PR)

# COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION

## INVITATION FOR BIDS

### CUC-IFB-24-027

#### ISLAND WIDE ROAD RESTORATION, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Island Wide Road Restoration, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of excavation, placing of flowable fill and asphalt to replace pavement areas cut by CUC to repair waterlines. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC and DPW. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year if exercised by CUC.

The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **October 10, 2024 at 9:30 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference, Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and seven (7) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “Island Wide Road Restoration” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 28, 2024** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of the Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualifications shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on October 11, 2024** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email, manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Rodolfo Rodriguez, Water and Wastewater Division Manager via email, rodolfo.rodriguez@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, P&S Senior Administrative Technician, via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in said bid, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**BETTINA G. TERLAJE**  
Acting Executive Director

**MANNY B. SABLAN**  
Purchasing Administrator

## NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514  
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp  
Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net

### PUBLIC NOTICE

09/25/2024

#### Notice for Public Comment

Reprogramming of Emergency Solution Grants

Program Year/IDIS No.	Program:	Activity Name:	Subrecipient:	Approved Budget:	Proposed Reprogramming Amount:	Proposed Revised Project Budget:	Current IDIS Funded Amount:
IDIS# 779	HESG	PY2023 HESG23 HMIS		\$7,000.00	(\$7,000.00)	0	\$7,000.00
		Total Reprogrammed from Activities:			(\$7,000.00)		
IDIS# 777	HESG	PY2023 HESG23 Rapid Rehousing NMHC		\$40,871.55	\$7,000.00	\$47,871.55	\$40,871.55
		Total Reprogrammed to Activities:			(\$7,000.00)		

Our agency, through its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP), publishes a “Public Notice” on reprogramming funds from HMIS to a project activity, which constitutes as a substantial amendment. Therefore, any comments from the general public should be submitted to NMHC Central Office located in Garapan, Saipan, and to the Rota and Tinian Field Offices, on or before October 28, 2024 no later than 4:30 P.M. You may contact Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Deputy Corporate Director or Ms. Tricia Tenorio, Planner @ (670)234-6866/233-0076.

“NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency”

CORP-OR Office  
Tel: (670)233-9447/9448/9449

Rota Field Office  
Tel: (670)532-9410  
Fax: (670)532-9441

# ARTMAN CORPORATION

## SERVICES will be:

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- Snake Wiring
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- Portable Hand Wash Station
- Handling Recyclable Wastes

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**MP 96950, Lower Base**  
**artmancorporation@gmail.com**  
**Please Call: 234-8079 | 287-8079**



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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**Mark Rabago** EDITOR  
mark\_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## The US economy is the envy of the world, but too many Americans have forgotten why

**I**t might be amusing if it weren't so vexing to see news reporters interview people shopping for luxury items, eating out at fancy restaurants, or vacationing at some resort while complaining about how bad the U.S. economy is.

Compared to what?

Just as frustrating but more pertinent are the countless interviews with people who say they are struggling to pay their bills. As the Bible says, "the poor you will always have with you," which means surveying those truly in need may not be the best way to gauge a country's economy.

Even so, polls consistently suggest Americans are so concerned about pocketbook issues that the economy is the central issue that may determine their vote for president.

It's as if those being polled have completely forgotten the economic quagmires this country struggled to get out of during both the Great Recession and the COVID-19 pandemic. The impact of those calamities on businesses, prices, and employment provides needed context to accurately view today's economy.

The recession from December 2007 to June 2009 was the nation's longest since World War II. The unemployment rate jumped from 5% to 10%, the S&P 500 stock exchange index dropped 57%, and the net worth of American households and nonprofits fell from \$69 trillion to \$55 trillion.

That was the economy President Barack Obama inherited from President George W. Bush.

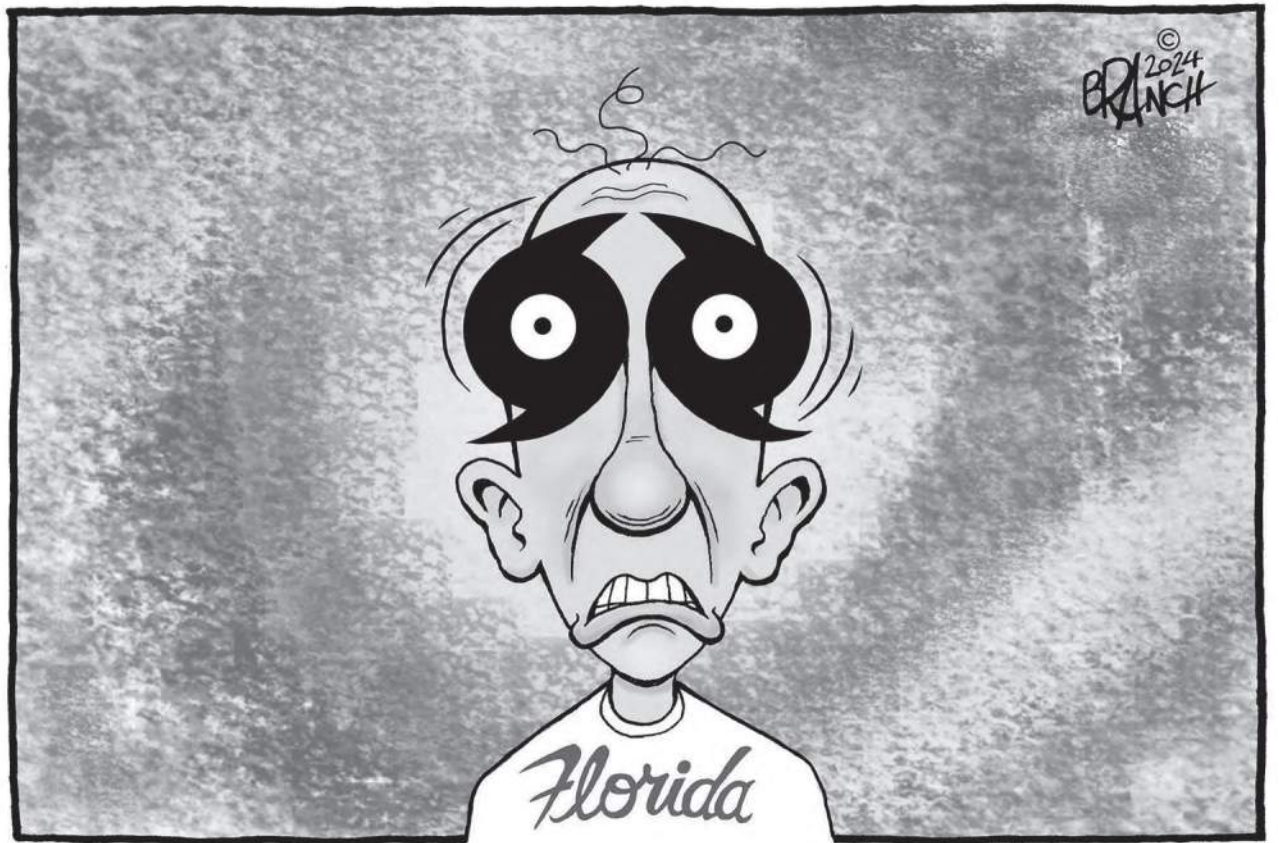
Obama's response included the American Recovery Act, which was signed into law in 2009 despite not receiving a single Republican vote in the House and only three in the Senate. The \$800 billion stimulus package included tax cuts, loan guarantees, financial assistance to families, and funding for infrastructure, renewable energy, and small businesses. It helped bring the recession to an earlier end.

The virus that led to the COVID-19 pandemic was first discovered in December 2019 in Wuhan, China. The disease eventually made its way to the United States, left more than 1.2 million Americans dead, and sent the U.S. economy into another tailspin.

For the second time in only 11 years, America again found itself in a history-making recession. By April 2020, the unemployment rate reached an unprecedented 14.8%. Some workers were more affected than others. With most people staying home to avoid being infected, the unemployment rate for the leisure and hospitality industry was 39.3%.

That was the economy President Joe Biden inherited from

See **ECONOMY** on Page 7



## We have extreme inequality in America, and it's getting worse

**B**loomberg recently reported that Meta founder Mark Zuckerberg is now worth over \$200 billion. He's not alone. Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, Tesla founder Elon Musk, and LVMH founder Bernard Arnault are also worth north of \$200 billion.

The news is a searing reminder of the uneven distribution of wealth in America. In the same country as Zuckerberg, Bezos, and Musk reside millions of people without a reliable source of food. (Arnault lives in France.) Redistributing just a small portion of the richest Americans' wealth could alleviate tremendous human suffering.

The problem is getting worse with time. According to Forbes magazine, "In 1987, the (world's) 140 billionaires had an aggregate net worth of \$295 billion." But now, in 2024, there are "more billionaires than ever: 2,781 in all, 141 more than last year and 26 more than the record set in 2021. They're richer than ever, worth \$14.2 trillion in aggregate, up by \$2 trillion from 2023 and \$1.1 trillion above the previous record, also set in 2021."

Forbes continued: "Much of the gains come from the top 20, who added a combined \$700 billion in wealth since 2023, and from the U.S., which now boasts a record 813 billionaires worth a combined \$5.7 trillion."

What could that vast wealth do? Looking globally, Oxfam International recently explained that \$1.7 trillion is "enough to lift two billion people out of poverty." So just a fraction of the wealth of a small number of people could bring billions out of poverty.

The problem, though, isn't just the top 0.1 percent. As Pew Research notes, America's upper class is getting richer as its middle class is getting smaller: "The growth in income in recent decades has tilted to upper-income households. At the same time, the U.S. middle class, which once comprised the clear majority of Americans, is shrinking. Thus, a greater share of the nation's aggregate income is now going to upper-income households and the share going to middle- and lower-income households is falling. The share of American adults who live in middle-income households has decreased from 61% in 1971 to 51% in 2019."

America's inequality, moreover, is markedly worse than other wealthy nations. The Gini coefficient is a common measure of a country's inequality. It uses a scale of 0 (perfect equality) to 1 (complete inequality). According to the Organization for Eco-

By **WILLIAM COOPER**

The Fulcrum

William Cooper is the author of "How America Works ... and Why it Doesn't."



nomic Co-operation and Development in 2017, "the Gini coefficient in the U.S. stood at 0.434." This number "was higher than in any other of the G-7 countries, in which the Gini ranged from 0.326 in France to 0.392 in the U.K., and inching closer to the level of inequality observed in India (0.495)."

There are many reasons for this inequality. Among them: technological automation, inherited wealth, lax corporate regulation, liberal trade policies, outsourced labor, insufficient taxation and broken public schools. Some inequality, of course, is also driven by individual choice (people electing to spend time on less-lucrative activities) and work ethic (some people work more than others).

And, importantly, there's nothing necessarily wrong with people getting rich. Some amount of inequality should even be encouraged. Hard work and ingenuity should be rewarded, as wealth must be created in order to be redistributed. And high-profile business successes motivate others to innovate and take risks that improve society at large.

But an excessive amount of inequality—see Zuckerberg, Bezos and Musk—allows large-scale human suffering to go needlessly unaddressed. This isn't just unfair. As the International Monetary Fund explained, it has widespread societal consequences: "growing inequality breeds social resentment and generates political instability. It also fuels populist, protectionist, and anti-globalization sentiments."

These problems aren't surprising or complicated. They're obvious consequences of a deeply flawed economic system. The same nation simply shouldn't have a few jackpot winners hoarding billions and, at the same time, tens of millions struggling to get by.



# Trump vs. Harris polls—5 warning signs for Democrats

**K**amala Harris' historic campaign, which launched with joy and once seemed destined for an inevitable victory, is now dogged by doubt.

There are three weeks until the presidential election, but the postmortem analyses have already begun. One of the most prominent diagnoses came from former President Barack Obama last Thursday.

At a campaign stop in Pittsburgh, with its mix of blue-collar labor jobs and white-collar tech and medical careers, Obama addressed one of the biggest warning signs for Democrats: an enthusiasm gap, especially among Black men.

Donald Trump, who has been running for the same office nearly nonstop since 2015, still has a base of energized voters so loyal they'd swim Pittsburgh's frigid three rivers in January to get to the polls if needed. But Harris, who has been a presidential candidate for less than three months, already has an enthusiasm problem? Obama is right to worry—especially in Pennsylvania.

The battleground state north of Maryland was the keystone to Trump's 2016 victory, and four years later it sent Joe Biden to the White House. One of the reasons Trump won eight years ago is because Clinton couldn't hold onto the Obama coalition of Black, Latino and young voters. She still won them overall, but Trump won a larger share than Obama's Republican challengers in 2008 and 2012. Cutting into the Democratic base and driving up rural votes helped Trump win Pennsylvania by a little more than 44,000 votes, or 1%.

Here are four more warning signs for Dems:

Trump has his biggest polling lead in eight years

This year marks the first time polls have shown Trump ahead in October during a presidential election. Granted, his lead is about 1 point in the top battleground states—well within the margin of error—but Democrats have reason to worry. Clinton had about a 10-point lead at this stage of the 2016 election, and she still lost. Biden was up by about 7 points at the same time in 2020, and he won.

Trump is leading by about 1 point in every major battleground except Wisconsin, where he is down by less than a point.

Voters have a more favorable view of Trump than they did in 2016 and 2020

Democrats and the Never Trumpers like to point to his laundry list of lies, the Jan. 6 insurrection, the criminal indictments against him and an assortment of awful things he has said in an attempt to disqualify him and question why anyone would vote for him.

But despite all those points, voters in Pennsylvania—which has the largest share of electoral votes (19) of any battleground state—have a more favorable view of him now than in the previous two elections. His favorability rating is still negative, but it's less negative than it was. In September 2016, Trump's net favorable rating was -28. In September 2020, it was -17. And last month, it was -9. Harris is at -3, according to the Franklin & Marshall Poll in Pennsylvania.

Also concerning for Democrats: Trump's presidential job approval in September 2020 was -22. Biden's is presently -28, according to the same poll.

Democrats are flailing in Senate races

If Democrats lose their Senate majority, it won't be a huge surprise. The map favored Republicans before the campaign began. There are close races in battleground states, red states and blue states alike. Even reliably blue Maryland has a competitive race, though the state still leans Democratic, according to most political analysts.

Democratic incumbents in Montana, Ohio and Wisconsin are struggling, and West Virginia independent Sen. Joe Manchin, who caucuses with Democrats, is on track to lose his seat.

Harris is struggling to define herself

Democrats repeat the same mistakes against Trump. They tiptoe and waffle on too many issues, shrink themselves, and desperately try not to offend any voting groups, while Trump has no problem offending anyone.

Though many voters have said he's crazy and crass, they seem to appreciate that he's true to himself. Perhaps Biden's authenticity helped him defeat Trump, along with the electorate's disapproval of the Republican former president's handling of COVID. Harris, like Clinton in 2016, is struggling to appear authentic.

**By CANDY WOODALL**

Baltimore Sun



*Candy Woodall is the opinion editor at The Baltimore Sun. She wants to read your thoughts on the presidential race and can be reached at cwoodall@baltsun.com.*

She's flip-flopped on several issues. She's waited too long to do media interviews and often does them with friendly hosts who throw more softballs than fastballs. (Trump also avoids most media interviews).

A bigger problem is that she's not drawing enough contrasts with Trump. The economy is the top issue for the majority of voters. Why isn't Harris speaking to that every day? Why isn't she pointing out that she's championing working-class voters while Trump campaigns with Elon Musk, the richest man in the world with a net worth of \$241 billion?

She's also not drawing enough of a contrast with Biden, which is challenging because she's his vice president. She's also the Democratic nominee for president only because Biden dropped out of the race. But one of her worst moments of the campaign was during an appearance on "The View," earlier this month. When asked what she would have done differently than Biden, she said, "Not a thing that comes to mind."

That answer might not be a problem for "The View" hosts, her supporters or most people along the Beltway. But for average voters, who do not follow political news or economic news, it's a red flag. They don't pay attention to politics every day. They may not know how or why inflation happens. They just know their cost of living is higher, and they tend to blame the sitting president for that.

If Harris wants to win, she's going to need to do more than appeal to unenthusiastic Black men. She's going to have to convince all voters why she's different and a better choice than Trump—and Biden.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Austerity's impact

Dear CNMI community,

From the recent article, concerning austerity. If you're not aware the CNMI government austerity measures target locally funded employees. Cutting hours or pay, can have several consequences and highlight disparities, particularly when federal funded employees remain unaffected. Here's a breakdown of the impact:

#### Consequences for locally funded employees:

1. Financial hardship: Reduced work hours or pay cuts directly affect employees' income, potentially leading to financial struggles, especially in regions with high living costs. This can cause issues like delayed bill payments, increased debt, or reduced spending power.
2. Morale and productivity: These austerity measures can lower employee morale, leading to decreased motivation and productivity. Employees may feel undervalued or treated unfairly, which can affect the quality of work.
3. Increased turnover: Employees facing reduced income or benefits may seek employment elsewhere, leading to increased

turnover. This creates gaps in staffing and requires additional resources for hiring and training replacements.

4. Reduced service capacity: When local employees work fewer hours, public services could slow down, affecting overall community operations. Essential services, such as education, health, or public safety, might experience delays or inefficiencies.

5. Inequality and resentment: The disparity between locally funded and federally funded employees creates tension. Federally funded employees, whose hours and salaries remain intact, might unintentionally become the target of resentment from their local counterparts, creating divisions within the workplace.

#### Disparity between local and federal employees:

1. Workforce imbalance: The austerity measures emphasize the gap between different funding streams. Federally funded employees, benefiting from stable financial support, continue to receive their full salary and hours, while their locally funded peers are asked to make sacrifices.
2. Job security: Federally funded positions offer more stability, whereas locally funded employees face job uncertainty. This disparity could lead to a brain drain, where skilled employees seek federal jobs or positions outside of the region to avoid unstable working conditions.
3. Public perception: The community may perceive a lack of

fairness in the system. When public services rely on both local and federal employees, and only the local workers are affected, the public may question the equity of government policies.

4. Long-term impact: The austerity could lead to a situation where fewer people are willing to work in locally funded positions, forcing local governments to rely more heavily on federal programs and employees, further shifting power and responsibility away from local control.

Addressing these disparities may require balancing local budgets in a way that avoids disproportionately affecting locally funded employees while exploring solutions like securing more federal grants or diversifying local revenue sources to mitigate austerity.

As residents, stakeholders, voters, community leaders of the Commonwealth, we bear the responsibility of demanding transparency and accountability from those who seek to lead us. These consequence and disparities need to be addressed, let's encourage honest dialogue and ensure that the future of our Commonwealth is shaped by informed and thoughtful decisions.

Thank you for your time and attention. Let us remain vigilant and committed to holding our leaders accountable.

**Frankie Manglona**

Dandan Village

## ECONOMY

From page 6

President Donald Trump.

Trump signed legislation before leaving office to keep the economy from falling into an abyss, but not before calling the bill a "disgrace." Three subsequent stimulus bills signed into law by Biden have been credited with helping to make the two-month COVID-19 recession the shortest in U.S. history. Biden's American Rescue Act of 2021 pushed the economy further from a pandemic-related collapse.

So how's the U.S. economy doing now?

September's 2.4% annual inflation rate is lower than it was before the pandemic. So is the September unemployment rate of 4.1%, though that's slightly higher than the 3.8% it was a

year ago. More than 250,000 jobs were added to U.S. payrolls in September, which far exceeded economists' predictions of 140,000 new jobs, and helped push the Dow Jones Industrial Average to a record high.

Pennsylvania hasn't done as well as the nation as a whole. Fifty-one of its 67 counties lost jobs during the pandemic, and most haven't recovered. But the state's 3.4% unemployment rate is lower than the national average, and the number of nonfarm jobs in the state reached a record high of more than 6.1 million this year, with most of those new jobs, 4,500, in education and health services.

Those numbers don't mean we shouldn't worry about the economy.

Too many people are either unemployed or not making enough money to pay their bills. And who knows when another pandemic or some other unforeseen crisis will steer financial markets






into a nosedive that leads to massive job losses, less consumer spending, bank bailouts, or other drastic measures to avoid another recession, if not a depression?

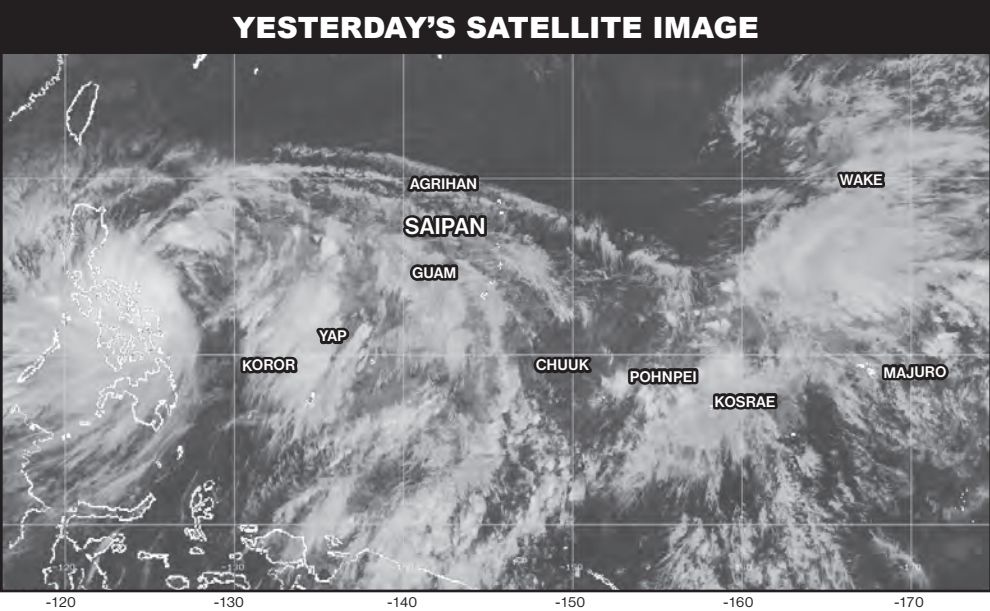
Even when you consider those calamitous possibilities, however, there's more to like than fear about today's economy. So why do polls suggest most Americans think the U.S. economy is in terrible shape?

Maybe because they don't know what to believe. Too many rely on dubious online news sources despite knowing the internet is rife with fake information and images. Too many trust political leaders who blatantly manipulate the truth for personal gain. Too many don't take the extra time needed to find the truth.

Do that and they will discover the U.S. economy, with all its challenges, remains the envy of the world.

# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
									
Cloudy with numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 20 mph. Locally heavy rainfall possible.		Mostly cloudy with numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms. North to northeast winds at 10 to 20 mph.		Mostly cloudy with showers likely and a slight chance of thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with showers likely.		Mostly cloudy with showers likely and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	
85°	78°	85°	77°	85°	77°	85°	77°	85°	77°



**PICTURE TIME: 7:40 AM TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2024**

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

The disturbance, Invest 97W, currently west of Guam is still expected to slide to the SSE today. Latest scatterometry data and surface observations show easterly flow across Tinian-Saipan and variable or southeast flow over Guam and Rota. Have updated the forecasts to reflect these wind differences through Wed or Wed night. 97W passing near Guam will cause Guam-Rota winds to fluctuate, possibly out of the southwest today or tonight before a northerly flow eventually spreads over the area early Wednesday.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: <https://www.weather.gov/gum/>

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Mostly Cloudy	86° / 78°	
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	84° / 78°	
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	85° / 78°	
Chuuk	Light Rain Shower	86° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Cloudy	86° / 76°	
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	86° / 76°	
Majuro	Mostly Cloudy	86° / 81°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:10 AM	5:51 PM
Thursday	6:10 AM	5:51 PM
Friday	6:10 AM	5:50 PM
Saturday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM
Sunday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	11:49 AM	11:12 PM
Thursday	-	12:40 PM	-
Friday	12:08 AM	1:26 PM	-
Saturday	1:02 AM	2:05 PM	-
Sunday	1:52 AM	2:41 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Cloudy	63° / 55°	
Beijing	Cloudy	64° / 48°	
Hong Kong	Sunny	84° / 70°	
Honolulu	Windy	85° / 75°	
London	Cloudy	59° / 54°	
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	76° / 59°	
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°	
Melbourne	Cloudy	61° / 50°	
Miami	Thunderstorms	84° / 79°	
New York	Sunny	74° / 54°	
Osaka	Cloudy	70° / 63°	
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	63° / 57°	
Busan	Windy	70° / 63°	
Rome	Partly Cloudy	77° / 54°	
Salem	Mostly Sunny	80° / 55°	
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	58° / 48°	
Seoul	Sunny	70° / 46°	
Tokyo	Cloudy	75° / 59°	
Washington, DC	Clear	80° / 50°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
5:56 AM	Low Tide	-0.30	
2:00 PM	High Tide	1.71	
7:15 PM	Low Tide	1.31	
10:48 PM	High Tide	1.51	

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2024

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA076	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
UA824	11:50AM	2:25PM	1, 3, 5	UA825	5:30PM	10:00PM	2, 4, 7
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily	UA184	10:25PM	4:15AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA193	6:55PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau	UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:20PM	9:10PM	Daily	PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
				UA184	11:50PM	5:40AM+1	2, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily up to Oct 26	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM +1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA076/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA076/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau	7C2306/3406	11:10PM	3:10PM+1	Daily up to Oct 26
				7C2306/3211	11:10PM	3:30PM+1	Daily from Oct 27
				UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM +1	2, 5 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	2:30AM	6:25AM	Daily from Oct 28	7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily up to Oct 26
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily up to Oct 27	7C3211	10:10AM	3:30PM	Daily from Oct 27
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily up to Oct 26	TW307	8:00PM	1:30AM+1	Daily up to Oct 27
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily up to Oct 26	TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily up to Oct 26
7C3212	4:35PM	8:25PM	Daily from Oct 27	7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily up to Oct 26
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX77	3:05AM	6:00AM	1, 5	HX76	6:25PM	1:35AM+1	4, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T\*Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

## STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 2, 2024

SAIPAN TO ROTA					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Daily
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	11:30	12:00	Saturday & Sunday
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:30	14:00	Monday To Friday
3104	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	11:30	12:00	Monday To Friday
GUAM TO ROTA					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	12:30	13:00	Monday To Friday
SAIPAN TO TINIAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1201	SAIPAN	TINIAN	7:30	7:45	Daily
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1206	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily
1207	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily
TINIAN TO SAIPAN					
FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2101	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2106	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily
2107	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily



# Judiciary welcomes Magistrate Judge Brown to the bench

**HAGATNA, Guam**—Sean Edward Brown was recently officially sworn in as a magistrate judge at the Guam Judicial Center.

Chief Justice Robert J. Torres administered the oath at a ceremony attended by Brown's family, esteemed guests, and members of the Judiciary.

Brown was appointed by Torres in anticipation of the conclusion of Magistrate Judge

Benjamin C. Sison Jr.'s second term. His appointment was unanimously confirmed by the Guam Legislature last month.

During the ceremony, Torres spoke highly of Brown's qualifications as a former prosecutor and his readiness for the role.

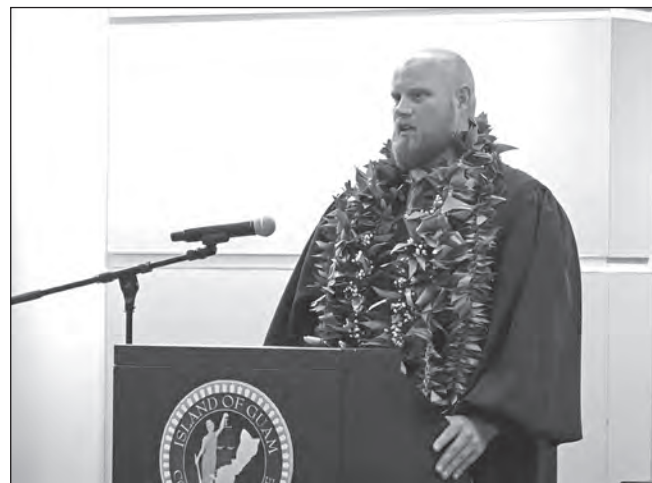
"Serving as a judicial officer requires more than experience," Torres remarked. "It's about the qualities that define

every decision: a steady, even temperament, a sense of fairness, and the ability to weigh each case with impartiality and care. For a magistrate judge, these traits are not just admirable—they are essential."

In addition to a broad range of civil matters, magistrate judges preside over initial appearances in criminal cases, handle arraignments, order pre-trial conditions,

and enter judgments.

"I am very humbled by this experience and will remember this day for the rest of my life," said Brown during his judicial address. "As a magistrate judge, I'm not going to throw people away if they make a mistake. I'm going to hold onto them—see what we can do to make their lives better and the community safer." (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Magistrate Judge Sean Edward Brown was recently sworn in at the Guam Judicial Center.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Newly sworn in Magistrate Judge Sean Edward Brown poses with other members of the Guam Judiciary led by Chief Justice Robert J. Torres.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Chief Justice Robert J. Torres administered the oath at a ceremony attended by Magistrate Judge Sean Edward Brown's family, esteemed guests, and members of the Judiciary.

## Big hearts, big efforts turn dreams into reality in Guam

In 2016, Dennis and Lena Calvo Rodriguez were driving down a street in Guam when out of the blue Dennis said, "I'm going to buy a mobile clinic and help people who don't have access to healthcare!" recalls Lena.

Thinking that this sounded like a pretty ambitious proposition, Lena replied, "Well, dreams are free, so just keep dreaming."

And dream they did.

But the couple did more than just dream...They took action.

In spite of initially having no resources or funding, they began actively sharing their dream with likeminded friends in the community. They found many willing to donate their time, talents, and resources to help provide basic healthcare services to those in need.

Soon, a team of volunteers was organized, and it was time for Dennis and Lena to put their ideas into action.

They received permission to host a free clinic in the parking lot of Paradise Fitness in Hagatna on a day when the fitness center would be closed. Word was put out regarding the free clinic.

On the designated day in July, 2016, over 30 volunteers showed up to help over 100 people receive consultations, immunizations, and other services. The first free clinic was more successful and popular

### » Latter-day Saint van donation helps Todu Guam Foundation create mobile clinic



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Todu Guam Foundation's Dennis and Lena Calvo Rodriguez with other volunteers during the turnover of the two vans from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints last Oct. 10.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

One of the mobile clinic vans donated by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

than anyone had anticipated.

Encouraged by the success of this first outreach, several more clinics were hosted over the next year. In 2017, the non-profit NGO Todu Guam

Foundation was formally organized.

From this point on, Todu Guam Foundation became a rallying point, inspiring and enabling others to join in



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Todu Guam Foundation and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints officials pose in front of one of the donated mobile clinic vans.

blessing and improving the community. It continues to expand its ability to find and serve those unable to obtain basic healthcare.

On Oct. 10, 2024 in a ceremony at the offices of Todu Guam Foundation, officers and directors of the non-profit NGO gratefully accepted a donation of two vans from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The vans will help expand the reach of the organizations volunteers in their quest to provide necessary healthcare services to community members with transportation or financial limitations.

The larger cargo van will be used as a mobile clinic which can travel to patients who are homebound. The smaller van will provide transportation to healthcare appointments for

those with limited transportation options.

"Part of our mission is to help those with mobility and transportation issues get the healthcare services that they need," said Dennis Rodriguez, co-founder of Todu Guam Foundation. "We consider donations like this as coming from the 'angels among us.'"

He then emphasized that such donations have helped make the dream of providing quality healthcare for all Guam community members a reality.

The seeds for the Todu Guam Foundation and its ambitious outreach were planted while Rodriguez, as a senator in the Guam legislature, served as chairman of the Committee on Health. There he became aware of the deficiencies in healthcare accessibility that

existed in the community and began developing a vision of how these disparities could be remedied.

"We look forward to working more with you in the future," said Bill Davis, representing the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at the ceremony. "We truly believe in the work that you are doing in the community. We offer our continued support in the future. We want to help people who are less privileged."

Also present representing the church was president Fredivic Nicerio of the Guam Barrigada Stake and Brett Child, Welfare and Self-Reliance manager for the church's Micronesia Guam area. Zeny Asunción, CFO for the Todu Guam Foundation, and other community leaders were also in attendance. (PR)



# Business

## MB Capital, MANGO to speak at November Chamber meeting

Saipan Chamber of Commerce's upcoming November general membership meeting will feature a special announcement by MB Capital Corp. general manager Gloria Cavanagh and a special presentation by Marianas Alliance of Non-Governmental Organization Communications and Operations manager Shawna Babauta.

Babauta will provide an in-depth look at MANGO's impactful work and highlight the crucial role nonprofits

play in supporting our community. She will also explain how these efforts align with the Sustainable Development Goals and share MANGO's initiatives to enhance data collection, further strengthening the impact of nonprofits throughout the region.

The Chamber general membership meeting is scheduled for Nov. 13, 2024 from 11:30am to 1pm at Queen's Hall, Kensington Hotel Saipan.

Attendees can also expect updates from our Chamber

committee chairs who will present updates on their activities and progress, the election of the 2025-2026 Chamber board of directors.

To register for the Chamber's general membership meeting, RSVP by visiting the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/SCCNOVGMM> or contact our office at (670) 234-7150 or send us an email at [contactus@saipanchamber.org](mailto:contactus@saipanchamber.org) for registration assistance.

Current registration fee is \$35 for Chamber members and

\$40 for future Chamber members which includes a delicious lunch, networking opportunities, and good discussions.

The Chamber is a non-profit organization with approximately 131 members dedicated to promoting the economic growth and development of the CNMI. It serves as the collective voice of the business community, advocating for their interests, fostering collaboration, and driving initiatives that support the local economy. (PR)

## McDonald's agreed to Trump event but says it isn't endorsing presidential candidate

McDonald's Corp. agreed to host former President Donald Trump at a Pennsylvania store over the weekend but said it isn't endorsing a candidate in the U.S. presidential race.

Trump staffed the fry station at a McDonald's in suburban Philadelphia on Sunday before answering questions through the drive-thru window. The restaurant was closed to the public for the Republican nominee's visit.

In a message to employees obtained Monday by The As-

sociated Press, McDonald's said the owner-operator of the location, Derek Giacomantonio, reached out after he learned of Trump's desire to visit a Pennsylvania restaurant. McDonald's agreed to the event.

"Upon learning of the former president's request, we approached it through the lens of one of our core values: we open our doors to everyone," the company said. "McDonald's does not endorse candidates for elected office and that

remains true in this race for the next president. We are not red or blue — we are golden."

The Chicago burger giant said franchisees have also invited Vice President Kamala Harris, the Democratic nominee, and her running mate, Gov. Tim Walz, to their restaurants. The Associated Press left a message seeking comment with the Harris campaign.

McDonald's said it has "been a fixture of conversation this election cycle" even though it hasn't sought that attention.

At several campaign stops and during interviews, Harris has recalled working at McDonald's for spending money during her college years. Trump has claimed — without evidence — that Harris is lying.

McDonald's sidestepped that issue in its employee message. The company said it is proud of "Harris's fond memories working under the arches" and noted the oft-cited figure that 1 in 8 Americans works at McDonald's at some point. (AP)

# World

## US defense chief promises Ukraine what it needs to fight versus Russia

**KYIV, Ukraine (AP)**—The United States "will get Ukraine what it needs" to fight its war with Russia, U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said on an unannounced visit to Kyiv on Monday, but he gave no hint that Washington might endorse key planks of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's so-called "victory plan."

The United States will provide Ukraine with what it requires "to fight for its survival and security," Austin said in a speech at the Diplomatic Academy of Ukraine. He noted that the U.S. has delivered more than \$58 billion in security assistance for Ukraine since Russia's February 2022 full-scale invasion, making it Kyiv's main backer.

That includes a new \$400 million package of military aid that the Biden administration

announced Monday, including munitions for rocket systems and artillery, mortar systems and rounds, armored vehicles and anti-tank weapons. It comes just days after the U.S. said it was sending \$425 million in military assistance to Ukraine.

But Zelenskyy has asked Ukraine's Western allies to go a few steps further, notably inviting Ukraine to join NATO and letting it use Western-supplied longer-range missiles to strike military targets deep inside Russian territory. Those steps have met with a lukewarm response.

Ukraine is having difficulty holding back a ferocious Russian campaign along the eastern front that is gradually compelling Kyiv's forces to give up a series of towns, villages and hamlets. It faces a hard winter after Russia targeted its power grid.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### China holds live-fire drills opposite Taiwan, a week after large-scale exercise

**TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)**—China is holding live-fire drills off the coast of its southern Fujian province facing Taiwan, just a week after a massive air-and-sea drill it called punishment for Taiwan's president rejecting Beijing's claims of sovereignty. The live fire drills were being held near the Pingtan islands off Fujian province from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., according to a notice from the Maritime Safety Administration. It warned ships to avoid the area. It did not offer additional details. Taiwan's Defense Ministry said China's drills were part of an annual exercise and was tracking them. "It cannot be ruled out that it is one of the ways to expand the deterrent effect in line with the dynamics in the Taiwan Strait," the statement added. Taiwan is a self-ruled island that Beijing claims is part of China. Tensions around the issue has flared in recent years. China has increased its presence in the waters and skies around Taiwan. It now increasingly sends large amounts of warplanes and navy vessels in military exercises near Taiwan and its coast guard carries out patrols. Last week, China held a one-day military exercise aimed at practicing the "sealing off of key ports and key areas." Taiwan counted a record one-day total of 153 aircraft, 14 navy vessels, and 12 Chinese

government ships.

#### US missile deployment to PH 'incredibly important' for combat readiness, US general says

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—The U.S. Army's recent deployment of a midrange missile system to the northern Philippines was "incredibly important" and allowed American and Filipino forces to jointly train for the potential usage of such heavy weaponry in Asian archipelago conditions, a U.S. general said Monday. The Biden administration has moved to strengthen an arc of military alliances in the Indo-Pacific to better counter China, including in any possible confrontation over Taiwan and other Asian flashpoints. The Philippines has also worked on shoring up its territorial defenses after its disputes with China started to escalate last year in the increasingly volatile South China Sea. China has vehemently opposed the increased deployment of American combat forces to Asia. But it has been particularly alarmed by the U.S. Army's deployment in April of the Typhon missile system, a land-based weapon that can fire the Standard Missile-6 and the Tomahawk Land Attack Missile, to the northern Philippines as part of joint combat exercises in April with Philippine troops.

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THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER



# Life & Style

## King Charles III ends 1st Australian visit by reigning British monarch in 13 years

**MELBOURNE, Australia** (AP)—King Charles III ends the first visit to Australia by a reigning British monarch in 13 years Tuesday with anti-monarchists hoping his journey is a step toward an Australian citizen becoming head of state.

Controversy interrupted the visit on Monday when Indigenous independent senator Lidia Thorpe yelled at Charles during a reception that he was not her king and Australia was not his land.

Esther Anatolitis, co-chair of the Australian Republic Movement, that campaigns for an Australian citizen to replace the British monarch as Australia's head of state, said while thousands turned out to see the king and Queen Camilla at their public engagements, the numbers were larger when his mother Queen Elizabeth II first visited Australia 70 years ago.

An estimated 75% of Australia's population saw the

queen in person during the first visit by a reigning British monarch in 1954.

"It's understandable that Australians would be welcoming the king and queen, we also welcome them," Anatolitis said. "But it doesn't make any sense to continue to have a head of state appointed by birth right from another country."

Anatolitis acknowledged that getting a majority of Australians in a majority of states to vote to change the constitution would be difficult. Australians haven't changed their constitution since 1977.

"It's tricky, isn't it? We've got that hurdle, of course," Anatolitis said.

Constitutional lawyer Anne Twomey said an Australian republic was not something that Charles, 75, need worry about in his lifetime.

She said the failure of a referendum last year to create an "utterly innocuous" Indigenous representative body to



King Charles III, center, participates in a traditional smoking ceremony conducted by community representatives from the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation during a visit to the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence on Tuesday Oct. 22, 2024 in Sydney, Australia.

advise government demonstrated the difficulty in changing Australia's constitution.

"It's just that on the whole people aren't prepared to change the constitution," Twomey said.

"So a republic, which would be a much more complex constitutional question than the

one last year, would be far more vulnerable to a scare campaign and to opposition," she said.

"So unless you had absolutely unanimous support across the board and a strong reason for doing it, it would fail," she added.

Philip Benwell, national

chair of the Australian Monarchist League, which wants to maintain Australia's constitutional link to Britain, said he was standing near Thorpe at the Canberra reception when she started yelling at the king and demanding a treaty with Indigenous Australians.

"I think she alienated a lot of sympathy. If anything, she's helped to strengthen our support," Benwell said.

Thorpe has been criticized, including by some Indigenous leaders, for shouting at the king and failing to show respect.

Thorpe was unrepentant. She rejected criticism that her aggressive approach toward the monarch was violent.

"I think what was unacceptable is the violence in that room, of the King of England praising himself, dripping in stolen wealth, that's what's violent," Thorpe told Australian Broadcasting Corp. "The violence is from the colonizer being in that room asserting his

authority, being paid for by every taxpayer in this country."

Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese wants Australia to become a republic but has ruled out a referendum during his first three-year term. But a referendum remains a possibility if his center-left Labor Party wins elections due by May next year.

Australians decided in a referendum in 1999 to retain Queen Elizabeth II as head of state. That result is widely regarded to have been the consequence of disagreement about how a president would be chosen rather than majority support for a monarch.

Sydney University royal historian Cindy McCreery suspects Australia is not yet ready to make the change.

"There's interest in becoming a republic, but I think what we may forget is that logistically speaking we're not going to have a referendum on that issue any time soon," McCreery said.

## Initial report shows Payne had cocaine in his system when he died

**Buenos Aires, Argentina** (AP)—An initial toxicology report for ex-One Direction singer Liam Payne, who died last week after falling from a third-floor hotel balcony in Buenos Aires, showed that he had cocaine in his system after his death, an Argentine official said.

The final toxicology results are not expected to be made public for some weeks. But the preliminary toxicology report of the wildly famous boy band star, handed to local

prosecutors on Monday, suggested evidence of exposure to cocaine, the official said, stressing that these initial results don't offer an accurate reading of just how much was circulating in his blood when he died.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to brief journalists. The preliminary report was widely reported in local media on Monday.

Argentina's public prosecution is investigating the case—

which is not uncommon when a death is sudden or unexpected.

Payne's autopsy concluded that the traumatic injuries that caused his death were consistent with his three-story fall from the hotel window. Prosecutors have ruled out anyone else being involved.

Argentine investigators found what appeared to be narcotics and alcohol strewn about broken objects and furniture in 31-year-old Payne's hotel room, leading the public prosecution to surmise Payne

had suffered a substance abuse-induced breakdown around the time of his fall. The prosecution said Payne could have plunged from his hotel room balcony in a state of "semi or total unconsciousness."

Photos purportedly taken from inside Payne's hotel room published by local media showed snowlike powder left on a table and a smashed-in TV screen. Police also discovered a blister pack of clonazepam, a central nervous system depressant, and over-the-counter

medications scattered among Payne's belongings. Shortly before Payne's death, the hotel manager called 911 to report a guest acting aggressively and under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

Investigators are also trying to figure out who sold Payne the drugs he took at the CasaSur Hotel in Palermo, a chic neighborhood of the Argentine capital. Police have taken statements from at least three hotel employees, as well as two women who visited Payne's hotel room a few hours before his death.

Fans and major pop industry figures around the world have reacted with an outpouring of grief.

The late singer's father, Geoff Payne, was still in Buenos Aires meeting with the prosecutors and other local officials Monday in an effort to organize the repatriation of the remains.

Argentine authorities expect to release the body next week, clearing the way for Geoff Payne to fly home and hold a funeral back in England, where on Sunday hundreds of fervent One Direction fans gathered to mourn the musician.

## Relative's spouse is unwelcome at family gatherings

**DEAR ABBY:** Many months ago, a family member's husband was charged with possession of and distributing more than 10,000 items of child pornography. The police and Department of Homeland Security raided their home and seized computers, cell phones and other devices. He was arrested and spent about a week in jail. He hired a very good attorney, and all the charges were dismissed.

His wife, our blood relative, stayed by his side. She remains married to him and doesn't plan to leave him. She has been keeping us up to date on the legal developments and says his attorneys believe he won't serve any jail time because "he's in his mid-70s and has no prior convictions of any crimes."

Although the charges were dismissed, we are not comfortable having him in our homes because there are small children at our gatherings. It's important to note that his wife never denied that he was viewing and distributing these materials. She only said, "They're making him out to be a monster." How can we remain supportive of her while at the same time let her know when the time comes, that he's NOT welcome? This chain of events has been devastating to our entire family.

DEVASTATED IN THE EAST

**DEAR DEVASTATED:** Your concern is understandable, but I have to question whether you have all of your facts

straight. On the one hand, you state that all the charges against this man were dismissed. On the other hand, you say his attorney thinks he won't serve time because of his age, which makes me wonder if some sort of plea deal happened, and he will be required only to perform community service.

You may want to be emotionally supportive of this family member, but if the parents of minor children feel her husband could present a danger to them, those children must be protected. And, if that means not exposing them to the couple, then so be it.

■■■

**DEAR ABBY:** I've been with my husband for 16 years. He has two children, ages 17 and 19. Every year, he spends the major holidays with his ex and his kids. I can't go with him because his ex has ruined any chance of my having a relationship with his children. Frankly, they hate me and blame me for their parents' divorce.

I have five children. I make time for them at holidays, but I prioritize my husband. I don't think he should be doing this. Am I wrong? He's done it for 16 years. I mention it every year, and he always says next year will be different. Please tell me your thoughts.

MISSING HIM THEN IN WASHINGTON

**DEAR MISSING:** This year won't be different, and nei-

## DEAR ABBY

BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



ther will the ones after. My question to you is, WERE you responsible for breaking up his marriage? According to the mail I have received over the years, many marriages were over long before either spouse filed for divorce. If the "kids" are right, they aren't going to change their attitude at this late date. If, however, you were blameless, their father should have straightened them out when they were old enough to understand.

■■■

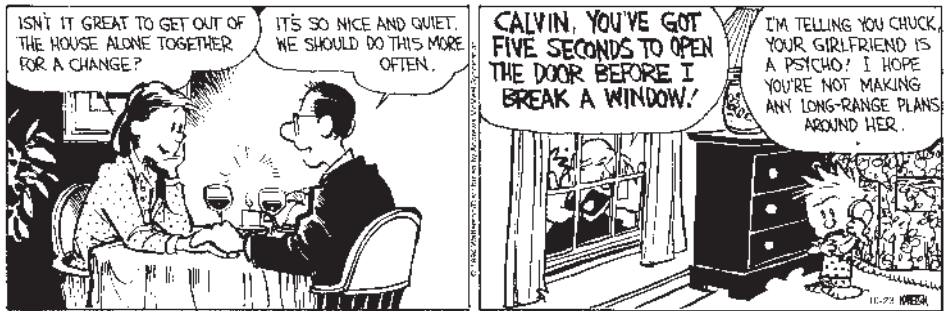
What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



Pastimes

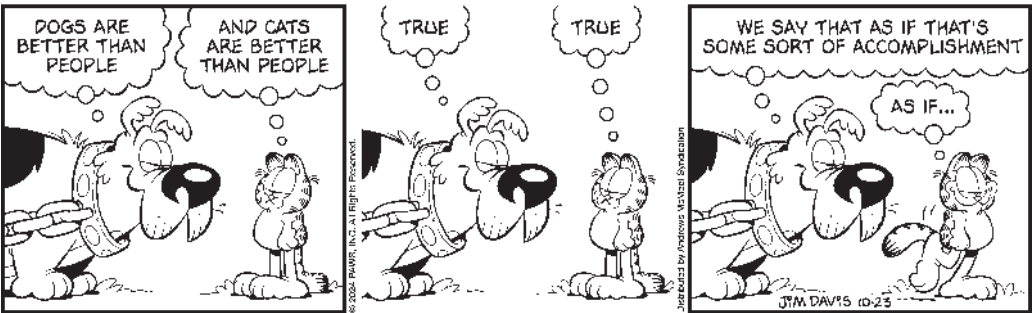
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 38 Curator's focus 40 Stitch 41 Tip off 43 Ordinal suffix 45 Illinois city 47 Near-sightedness 51 LP player 52 Bear market 54 Barks events 55 "Blue?" 56 Roman 602 57 Try out 58 Horror star 59 Bygone jets

DOWN 1 Pills, in slang 2 Farm unit 3 Gator's kin 4 Toyota model 5 White-water sport 6 TV alien 7 Singer Elliott 8 Words after "Peeka-boo" 9 Pastry competitions 10 Matured over 16 Wine (Pref.) 20 Pea holder 23 Hitler's stat 24 Kilmer of "Top Gun" 25 Boastful bunch 27 "Diamonds" singer 29 Nemesis 30 Away from NNE 32 Autocratic, like old Russia 34 Imp 37 Prefix with athlete 39 Texter's sign-off 42 Twangy 44 Head warmers 45 Excellent, in slang 46 Ireland 48 Some GIs 49 "— ain't broke ..." 50 Un-repaired 53 Comic Philips

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterday's answer 10-23

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ryan Reynolds, 48; Cat Deeley, 48; Weird Al Yankovic, 65; Dwight Yoakam, 68.

Happy Birthday: Do the legwork yourself to avoid being put in a vulnerable position. It's your year to shine, but first, assume the role of a leader, even if you feel like letting others take care of matters for you. An open mind and acute sense of what's necessary to achieve your goal will exceed the attempts others make to outmaneuver you. Stay on target and in control, and success will be yours. Your numbers are 9, 13, 21, 29, 35, 38, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Do your best to get along. Keep your thoughts to yourself and concentrate on getting things done. A physical approach to your day will bring the highest returns. Fitness and taking care of unfinished business will be uplifting and lead to opportunities that can expand your interests.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take the initiative to make your surroundings user-friendly. How you live will affect your attitude and determine how well you get along with others. Let your imagination lead the way, and you'll devise a blueprint that will make your life easier and your outlook happier.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Participate in an event or activity that interests you, but be wary of anyone using pressure tactics to manipulate your response. Put more time and energy into self-preservation and feeling and looking your best. Learn from experience and take the path that promotes freedom of choice.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Check out what's available in the job market and reach out to anyone who can offer insight into how to reach your true potential with your skills, qualifications and experience. Take an interest in investments, budgeting and pursuing a financial goal that reduces stress.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Check into obscure matters that require attention. Taking care of personal business will free up time to enjoy the people and pastimes that put a smile on your face. Implement a positive lifestyle change, and distance yourself from people who bring you down. Take control of your happiness.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Communication, travel, learning and participating in events and activities that move you will be eye-opening and encourage you to implement positive changes. Size up your situation at home and how it affects your health and well-being, and you'll discover how best to curb bad habits and poor influences.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take nothing for granted. Your success will come from doing for yourself in your own unique way. Dedication and being true to yourself will outmatch anyone who tries to stand in your way. A change at home or work will turn out better than you anticipated.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Gather your thoughts and put your energy into completing your mission. Setting boundaries and touting a disciplined attitude will ensure you get things done promptly and deter outside interference and temptation. Don't forget to take pride in what you do and reward yourself for your effort.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Protect your health and physical well-being. Don't take a risk, let someone lead you astray or allow others to take advantage of you. Protect your possessions and interests and focus on paying attention to your needs. Put yourself first and say no to anyone infringing on you or making you uneasy.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Push forward with vim and vigor. Be the force that brings about change and makes a positive difference to those you encounter. Set a good example, and you'll feel good about yourself and get the respect you deserve. Hard work will pay off, and financial gain looks promising.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take your time, don't rush decisions and refuse to let someone's impatience push you in an uncertain direction. Look for opportunities that feel good and right for you, and stand strong under pressure. Don't jeopardize your reputation, position or prospects for someone else's gain.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Gather information, set a budget and follow through with your plans. Refuse to let what others do deter you from pursuing your dreams. When in doubt, take a moment to observe and establish what's best for you. Research will lead to personal growth, confidence and better choices.

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, imaginative and passionate. You are protective and possessive.

☾: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☼: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☼☼: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☼☼☼: Aim high; start new projects. ☼☼☼☼: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

7 8 1 5 9

3 4 6

6 8 2

1 4 9 3

5 2 1 4

5 7 8 9

9 3

6 3 1 5 2

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

3 4 2 9 8 1 6 7 5

8 1 5 7 2 6 3 4 9

7 9 6 4 5 3 8 2 1

5 3 1 8 6 2 7 9 4

4 6 8 5 7 9 1 3 2

9 2 7 1 3 4 5 8 6

1 7 4 6 9 8 2 5 3

2 5 9 3 1 7 4 6 8

6 8 3 2 4 5 9 1 7

Difficulty: ★★★ 10/23 ©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

CLARITY Solution: 11 letters

ESMANAGEXPLAINC

RLUICALMAERDLOD

UEACRADIANTIMIE

PWTTCRDNOPGMATE

IETISEODRHUMRCP

HJFDRYSRTNOESEG

SAANEWRSSINAPKRL

RNIUVVDCDSENIIA

ETTOISAEAOAINNDS

DSHSRTZNCHRNIPS

ALUGIDZETNEIGH

EALOIALLRLEARNES

LONCYRETSYMLEGR

WGUENTBRILLIANT

CLEARCENADIUGBT

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Balance, Bright, Brilliant, Calm, Clear, Coherent, Communication, Crystal, Dazzle, Deep, Diamond, Direction, Dream, Explain, Faith, Glasses, Glow, Goals, Guidance, Jewels, Leadership, Learn, Lights, Lucid, Manage, Mind, Mirror, Mystery, Peace, Pond, Pure, Radiant, Reason, Ring, River, Shine, Singer, Skin, Sound, Success, Think, Visual, Write

Yesterday's Answer: Emotions

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# Jackson leads streaking Ravens to win vs. Buccaneers



**TAMPA, Fla.**  
(AP)—Lamar Jackson, who may be playing the best football of his career, made it look easy.

The two-time MVP threw for 281 yards and five touchdowns Monday night, helping the Baltimore Ravens overcome an early double-digit deficit and extend their winning streak to five games with a 41-31 victory over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, who lost their top two receivers to injuries.

"Trying to win. That's all that's on my mind," Jackson said after the AFC North co-leaders scored on seven of nine possessions before removing him from the game with just under two minutes left.

"I'm proud of him. I'm happy for him. He's a great leader, a great player," coach John Harbaugh added. "He's the ultimate competitor on a level with the greatest competitors I've ever seen."

Jackson improved improved to 23-1 against NFC teams, the best mark by a quarterback against an opposing conference in NFL history. He's 3-0 against the Bucs (4-3), who faded after taking a 10-0 lead with help from the 100th TD reception of Mike Evans' career.

Evans departed with a hamstring injury after Baker Mayfield tried to connect with him in the end zone again, and late in the fourth quarter with the game out of reach, leading Bucs receiver Chris Godwin was carted off the field with a left ankle injury. ESPN declined to show replays of Godwin's injury, which appeared to be severe.

"Early indication is that it's dislocated. Doesn't look good,"



Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson (8) is pressured by Tampa Bay Buccaneers linebacker Joe Tryon-Shoyinka (9) during the first half of an NFL football game, Monday, Oct. 21, 2024, in Tampa, Fla.

said Bucs coach Todd Bowles, who defended the decision to still have Godwin on the field in the closing minutes.

"He's a player. We're trying to win the ballgame. We were still down 10, we're trying to get extra points and kick another onside kick. It just happened," Bowles added. "With Mike (Evans) going down, we didn't have that many receivers left as it was, so we play what we got."

Jackson completed 17 of 22 passes without an interception,

including TD throws of 9 and 4 yards to Mark Andrews. He also tossed scoring passes of 49 yards to Rashod Bateman, 18 yards to Justice Hill and 11 yards to Derrick Henry, who rushed for 169 yards on 15 carries. Bateman had four catches for 121 yards.

The Ravens (5-2) rebounded from a slow start on defense, with cornerback Marlon Humphrey turning the game around with a pair of second-quarter interceptions—one of them in the Baltimore end

zone. Jackson led a four-play, 80-yard TD drive after the first pick, and the second interception set up Justin Tucker's 28-yard field goal for a 17-10 halftime lead.

"It doesn't matter when, where or what. He's the ultimate competitor," Andrews said of Jackson. "It's just play after play after play of him making big-time plays and helping this team win games. He does it better than anybody in the league. He lays it all out on the line every game. He's

the best. He's the MVP."

Mayfield finished 31 of 45 passing for 370 yards, three TDs and two interceptions. Evans joined Hall of Famers Jerry Rice, Randy Moss, Marvin Harrison and Terrell Owens as the only players to have at least 100 TD receptions in the first 11 seasons of a career when he caught a 25-yard scoring pass in the first quarter.

Evans, who missed two days of practice last week with what the Bucs described as a nagging hamstring issue,

appeared to aggravate the injury on the scoring reception. Mayfield nearly connected with him in the end zone again in the second quarter, but this time the ball glanced off Evans' hands as he and Ravens cornerback Brandon Stephens went to the ground.

Evans remained on the turf for several minutes before being helped to his feet and limping to the locker room. He did not return.

The Bucs played at home for the first time since Hurricane Milton made landfall on Florida's Gulf Coast, causing extensive damage in the Tampa Bay area and along the path it took across the state. The Bucs relocated ahead of the storm to New Orleans, where they practiced for four days before trouncing the Saints 51-7 last week.

The Ravens lead the the NFL with 1,476 rushing yards this season and have run for at least 150 in every game. With 243 on the ground Monday night, they became the fourth team since 1980 to begin a season with at least 1,400 yards in their first seven games. The others are the 1984 Chicago Bears (1,508), 2006 Atlanta Falcons (1,476) and 2019 Ravens (1,429).

Henry's touchdown catch midway through the fourth quarter made it 41-18. The Bucs scored twice in the closing minutes, including after a successful onside kick, the second time the Ravens have failed to recover an opponent's onside kick this season.

Those late scores gave the Bucs a glimmer of hope that was quickly extinguished when Godwin was hurt while being tackled by Roquan Smith on a 21-yard catch with about a minute left.

## Murray runs for a TD, leads Cardinals to game-winning FG and 17-15 win over Chargers

**GLENDALE, Ariz.** (AP)—Arizona's Kyler Murray rolled out to his left before turning on the jets, beating a Chargers defender to the sideline and then coasting for a spectacular 44-yard touchdown, casually holding the ball with one hand like it was a backyard game.

Cardinals coach Jonathan Gannon admitted that's not the way his players are taught to protect the ball.

Then again, Gannon didn't teach Murray how to run like that, either.

"Until he fumbles, I'll let him ride," Gannon said with a wry grin. "That was a pretty spectacular play."

Murray ran for the game-changing touchdown early in the fourth quarter and then led the Cardinals on a drive that set up Chad Ryland's 32-yard field goal as time ex-

pired, and Arizona rallied for a 17-15 win over Los Angeles on Monday night.

Cameron Dicker kicked his fifth field goal of the night—this one from 40 yards—to give the Chargers a 15-14 lead with 1:54 left. But the Cardinals (3-4) quickly moved into field goal range, aided by an unnecessary roughness call on Cam Hart that cost Los Angeles (3-3) 15 yards.

Arizona followed that with a bruising 33-yard catch and run by James Conner, who finished with 101 yards on the ground and 51 yards receiving. Conner's big gain eventually set up Ryland's short field goal and a Cardinals celebration. Conner delivered a sterling speech to the team on Sunday night and backed up those words on Monday.

"That's just the way the

season's been going," Conner said. "As a captain on this team, that's the job description. Just tried to rally the troops."

It was a frustrating night for the Chargers' offense, which gained 395 yards but couldn't find the end zone. Justin Herbert completed 27 of 39 passes for 349 yards. It was coach Jim Harbaugh's first loss on Monday night, dropping him to 6-1 for his career.

Dicker booted field goals of 59, 50, 28, 47 and 40 yards, the first of which tied a franchise record for distance.

The Chargers came into the game with one of the NFL's top defenses and had another good night, but the offense usually couldn't execute when it mattered most. Los Angeles has gone 16 consecutive offensive drives

without a touchdown.

"I thought we did a lot of good things, but we've got to score points in the red zone," Herbert said. "That's the biggest takeaway from tonight's game. We've got an amazing kicker, but we've got to do a better job for our defense and special teams. We've got to score points."

Murray ran for his spectacular touchdown early in the fourth quarter for the 14-9 lead. It was Murray's second long touchdown run in three weeks after he scored on a 50-yard sprint against San Francisco.

"It's a good feeling, just putting the ball in the end zone," Murray said. "Wish we could have done that more tonight, but a win's a win."

It was also Murray's 20th career game with a touchdown

pass and run.

Murray completed 14 of 26 passes for 145 yards, one touchdown and one interception.

Dicker's 28-yarder late in the third quarter gave the Chargers a 9-7 lead. Los Angeles gained possession after stopping Cardinals backup quarterback Clayton Tune on third-and-1 and fourth-and-1. The Cardinals sometimes use Tune in short-yardage situation because he's bigger than Murray.

Arizona scored on a 5-yard touchdown pass from Murray to Greg Dortch in the second quarter to take a 7-6 into halftime. It was Dortch's first touchdown catch of the season.

Dicker made two field goals in the first half for the Chargers, including the 59-yarder. That was the longest kick of Dicker's career

after he previously made two from 55 yards.

Los Angeles fumbled away a pair of great opportunities early in the first quarter.

On Arizona's opening drive, Murray had a pass deflected by Khalil Mack and intercepted by Teair Tait. The 304-pound defensive lineman started running downfield, but was stripped from behind by Conner before Arizona's Michael Wilson grabbed the fumble.

Then, on the Chargers' first drive, Herbert hit Jalen Reagor for a 42-yard gain, but Arizona's Starling Thomas stripped Reagor and the ball bounced into the end zone for a touchback.

"It was a game of a lot of near misses and close calls," Harbaugh said. "Both teams played well. Came down to a lot of details, not just one play."



# Boone says Yankees clubhouse togetherness at high going into World Series



**NEW YORK** (AP)—While not exactly a modern metric, Aaron Boone is convinced the New York Yankees have their highest kumbaya in years.

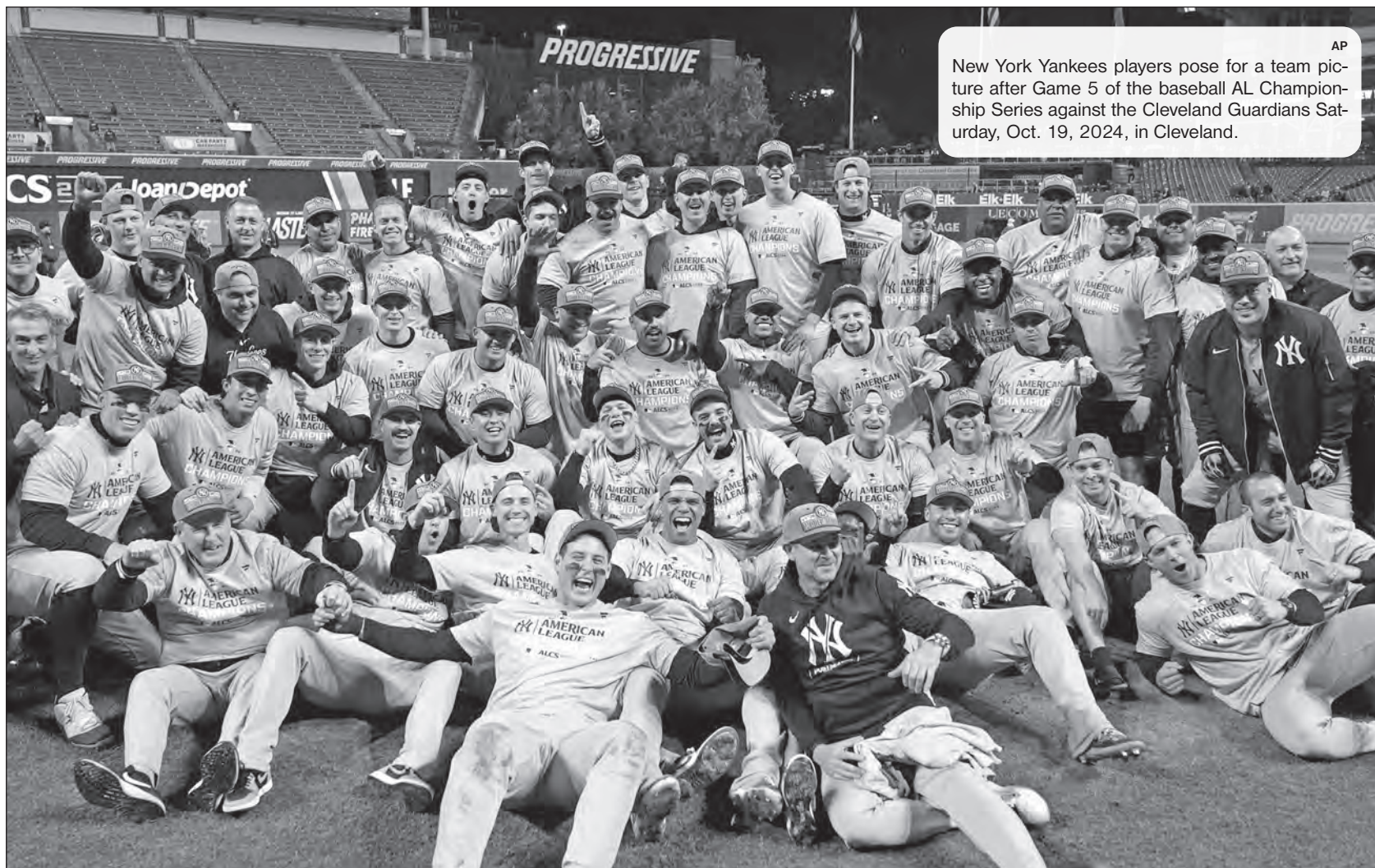
“The closeness that these guys have with one another and that trite ‘playing for one another’ is palpable with this group, has been all year, has been since day one,” the manager said Monday, four days ahead of the World Series opener against the Los Angeles Dodgers. “These guys love each other and these guys love doing it for one another.”

Seeking their 28th title, the Yankees are in the World Series for the first time since winning the 2009 championship. Boone replaced Joe Girardi ahead of the 2018 season, and his teams were eliminated in the 2019 and 2022 AL Championship Series, the 2018 and 2020 Division Series and the 2021 wild-card game.

New York went 82-80 last year and missed the playoffs for the first time since 2016. That failure motivated many players, including captain Aaron Judge, to report in January to the team’s minor league complex in Tampa, Florida, weeks before the formal start of spring training.

“The guys that have been here, the leadership that have been here took all that very personally and knew that we had to have a great season this year and maybe just on the margins just a tighter focus, even in the winter,” Boone said. “Not only working out and getting prepared for spring training, but I think fostering those relationships.”

New additions for 2024 bonded with veterans.



New York Yankees players pose for a team picture after Game 5 of the baseball AL Championship Series against the Cleveland Guardians Saturday, Oct. 19, 2024, in Cleveland.

“It’s just a brotherhood,” pitcher Clarke Schmidt said. “We love each other. We got each other’s backs.”

Boone spoke in the Yankee Stadium news conference room, wearing a new World Series sweatshirt and with a World Series logo backdrop. There was an optional workout as the team let Saturday’s AL pennant-winning game against Cleveland start to fade and turned its attention to the NL champion Dodgers.

In navigating the postseason, Boone said he has been texting with Joe Torre, who managed the Yankees to titles in 1996 and from 1998-2000.

New York and Los Angeles will play just the fifth World Series between teams with their league’s best record since wild cards started after Cleveland and Atlanta (the initial wild-card season of 1995), the Yankees and Braves (1999), Boston and St. Louis (2013) and the Dodgers and Tampa Bay (2020).

This matchup features Judge and Shohei Ohtani, the likely league MVPs. They will be among only six pairs of league home run leaders to meet in the Series after Babe Ruth and George Kelly (1921), Ruth and Jim Bottomley (1928), Lou Geh-

rig and Mel Ott (1936), Joe DiMaggio and Ott (1937) and Mickey Mantle and Duke Snider (1956).

The only times since 1980 that MVPs met in the Series were Kirk Gibson and Jose Canseco in 1988 and Buster Posey and Miguel Cabrera in 2012.

“The stars will be out. The eyeballs will be watching and, hopefully, we can deliver on a great Series,” Boone said.

After several seasons filled with numerous injuries, New York has been relatively healthy: Anthony Volpe played in 160 games, Judge 158, Juan Soto 157, Gleyber

Torres 154 and Alex Verdugo 149. Carlos Rodón made 32 starts, Nestor Cortes 30, and Luis Gil and Marcus Stroman 29 each.

Ace Gerrit Cole didn’t make his season debut until June 19 because of right elbow inflammation but has missed just one rotation turn since returning. Schmidt came back in September from a lat strain, Gil from a back strain and Jon Berti from a calf strain.

Cortes appears likely to be added to the World Series roster after recovering from a flexor strain in his left elbow that has sidelined him since Sept. 18. First baseman An-

thony Rizzo returned from a pair of fractured fingers to hit .429 in the LCS (6 for 14).

“We are as whole as we’ve been really in several years,” Boone said in mid-September. “There’s been a lot of years where we’ve had good seasons, where we’ve gotten to postseason where we’ve had some attrition.”

Cole will pitch the opener and while Boone wouldn’t commit to a rotation after that, the most likely order will be Rodón, Schmidt and Gil.

“I do think we’re here because this is our best team,” Boone said, “at least at this time of year.”

## Dodgers stay alive all the way to the World Series with bullpen games and contributions from all

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—The World Series is always the goal for the big-spending Los Angeles Dodgers. It’s been elusive recently, with first-round flops two years running. Now, with Shohei Ohtani leading the way for the first time, they are going for another championship.

So a raucous clubhouse celebration was in order after the Dodgers beat the New York Mets to clinch their record 25th National League pennant.

“We hope we can do it again,” infielder Max Muncy said. “We need to get four more wins.”

Next up are the New York Yankees in the World Series, starting with Game 1 on Friday at Dodger Stadium. The best-of-seven series pits two of baseball’s most glamorous

teams, with a storied World Series rivalry.

“I know the fans love this and the players love this, too,” Los Angeles outfielder Teoscar Hernández said. “It’s not going to be easy but we have the team, we have the help, and we’re going to go for that World Series trophy.”

The Yankees have beaten the Dodgers in eight of their 11 World Series clashes. The first seven were played in New York—with the Yankees in the Bronx and Dem Bums in Brooklyn. The Dodgers moved to Los Angeles before the 1958 season.

“I think the whole world was looking forward or hoping for this potential matchup,” Dodgers manager Dave Roberts said.

He isn’t kidding. The Dodgers have another country back-

ing them—Japan has been tuning into the team’s playoff games in record numbers, eager to see Ohtani and pitcher Yoshinobu Yamamoto.

The Dodgers landed Ohtani with a record \$700 million, 10-year deal in free agency, and they gave Yamamoto a \$325 million, 12-year contract.

Ohtani’s performance in 2024 included becoming the first player in major league history with 50 home runs and 50 stolen bases in a season.

At the same time, the Dodgers overcame a litany of injuries that decimated their starting pitching. They led the major leagues with 36 injured list placements and 2,342 days lost, 445 more days than any other team.

Helped by a couple key contributors that arrived at the July trade deadline,

they still finished with baseball’s best record at 98-64 to earn home-field advantage throughout the postseason.

“This is a team that stayed together. Everybody contributed,” Hernández said. “Shohei was a big part of all the wins we got, but the pitching, the bullpen was the big thing and thanks to them we’re here, going to the World Series.”

The Dodgers were in a perilous position in their NL Division Series, trailing the rival San Diego Padres. They rallied to win the last two games and take the best-of-five series 3-2.

“They proved to themselves how tough they are,” Roberts said.

The Dodgers are down to three healthy starters and have used three bullpen games so far this postseason.

That strategy worked twice, including Sunday’s clincher over the Mets.

It wasn’t supposed to be like this. They acquired Tyler Glasnow, but he went down with an elbow injury in mid-August. Two weeks later, Clayton Kershaw, already coming off elbow surgery, was finished because of a bone spur in his big toe. Dustin May never pitched this season and Tony Gonsolin was rehabbing after Tommy John surgery.

Walker Buehler struggled at times in his first season back from a second Tommy John procedure.

All-Star first baseman Freddie Freeman and shortstop Miguel Rojas have missed some time this postseason because of injuries, forcing multiple lineup changes.

Still, the Dodgers have

stayed alive.

“I’m going to enjoy it no matter how little I helped,” said Kershaw, the team’s longest-tenured current player.


The Dodgers bolstered their roster in July by trading for starter Jack Flaherty, reliever Michael Kopech and versatile utilityman Tommy Edman, whose 11 RBIs against the Mets earned him NLCS MVP honors. Thrown into the cleanup spot in Game 6, Edman responded with four RBIs.

“I just think that I’ve got to bet on players that I feel are capable, put them in the best position to have success and be willing to live with whatever consequence,” Roberts said. “This postseason, I’ve had a lot of clarity, and the players have made me look really good.”



# Register for the 2nd Veterans Day 5K

By LEIGH GASES  
leigh\_gases@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

 Honor and thank our veterans while you keep fit in Run Saipan's 2nd Annual Veteran's Day 5K on Monday, Nov. 11.

The start time is 6am at the start/finish line at the former Hyatt Regency in Garapan. The turnaround is at the Pacific Trading Co. in Puerto Rico.

Run Saipan will not only award the Top 3 men and women, but will also award two more categories for male and female: Veterans Category and the Armed Forces Category.

The Armed Forces Category is for those still in active duty with

the National Guard and the Reserve components.

For Run Saipan president Edward Dela Cruz Jr., who is a veteran after serving three years in the Guam Army National 1st -294th Infantry Regiment, this race is in honor of the veterans on the island.

"There's not many veterans activities on the island when it comes to running so I wanted to hold this event in honor of them. Veterans Day is the day we pay respect to those who have served and given their all for our great nation," he said.

He added, "Run Saipan would like to hold a 5K in honor of our veterans for their dedication and service. As such, we have a special rate for them and also we have categories for the

runs this year for honoring the fastest of them all."

This year, he said, he said he decided to use the official Saipan Marathon 5K course at the Memorial Park instead of at Airport Road, where it was held last year.

"The reason behind this was that the veterans ceremony was held at the park. Last year we didn't get a big turnout because of how far the location was to the veterans ceremony. I wanted to ensure that our armed forces guests and veterans who flew in for the ceremony would be close to their hotel room to prepare for the ceremony and run this event. Also, Garapan is more central than the airport," he said. "I hope we have a couple of admirals or generals run



**RUN SAIPAN**  
Matthew Furan is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and is the man to beat in the Veterans Category of the 2nd Annual Veteran's Day 5K.

this 5K this year with our guys."  
For veterans and armed forces members, email [edwardjrdlc@gmail.com](mailto:edwardjrdlc@gmail.com) for the Veterans Day registration code.  
To register, click on this link below: <https://raceroster.com/events/2024/83513/veterans-day-5k-24/>.

## SLLB Inc. meeting on Oct. 26

 The Saipan Little League Baseball Inc. will be having a general membership meeting for election of officers for its board of directors for the 2025 season.

All interested individuals willing to serve on the SLLB Inc. board of directors are encouraged to attend this meeting.

The meeting will be held on Oct. 26, 2024, starting at 9am at the Minachom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe. **(PR)**

## PADDLERS

From page 16

to Puti'on Tasi at 1:07:49.90, while Taotao Galaide settled for bronze at 1:11:18.50.

Tyler Andrew of SPC outpaced everyone in the V1 junior men's finals with his time of 1:15:45.70. The battle for silver was a close one as SPC's Philip Aldan secured it at 1:17:26.90, while SPC's Yuling Chai won bronze at 1:17:39.80.

As for the V6 open women finals, Marianas Outrigger Club Black won gold by a hair at 1:36:38.00, while silver was Marianas Pacific Paddlers with their time of 1:36:37.00. Bronze went to Guam's Napu club at 1:36:55.00.

In the V1 open men finals, MOC's Maverick Itibus was golden with a time of 1:11:33.40. Silver went to SPC's Carter Calma at 1:13:43.10, while MOC's Dan Taitano settled for bronze with 1:18:08.60.

MOC's V6 masters men team bagged bronze at 9:13.50 over Guam's Bihun Tasi with 9:23.93.

In the V6 master's mixed race, MPP beat out Bihun Tasi for gold with a time of 1:27:36.00. Bihun Tasi finished at 1:32:18.20.

For the V1 master's women's race, MPP's Maria Ornes was the lone paddler who came in at 1:34:54.70.

In other results, in the V1 junior



LEIGH GASES

Teams are seen on the shore of the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan coming in and heading out the during the 24th Micronesian Cup Canoe Race last Saturday.

women's race, Puti'on Tasi's Kayla Rivera won gold at 1:29:48.00. Dina Soriano won silver with 1:31:14.00, while SPC's Emma Chong bagged bronze at 1:35:05.70.

For the V1 open women finals, Napu's Kia Quichocho was golden at 1:29:10.10. SPC's Jenisha Durball paddled to silver at 1:29:20.70, and MOC's Ashley Pangelinan was bronze at 1:36:36.30.

In the V1 master's men's finals, Taotao Galaide's Jason Park won gold at 1:13:30.40, while MOC's Jason Tarkong was silver at 1:19:30.30.

In the V6 open mixed finals, Guam's Maneran Galaide bagged gold at 1:13:41.90; Napu won silver at 1:18:32.30; and Majol Canoe Club won bronze with 1:21:39.50.

And in the open men's finals, Maneran Galaide claimed gold at

1:21:07.00. Silver went to MOC Red at 1:21:47.00, and Taotao Galaide settled for bronze at 1:22:43.50.

Tarkong, who was one of MOC's coaches, said of the races so far last Saturday, "It's really nice to see this community here and the future [of paddling]. It moves fast—while the others are racing, we have canoes ready to go, so it moves a lot faster."

He added, "It's been a while since we had a masters division in the Micro Cup... But these conditions here, the canoes, and the gear have been really fantastic. Having it ready and well run, I want to thank the MPP, MOC, SPC, the organizers and the volunteers... and the sponsors."

The CNMI teams were Marianas Outrigger Club, Saipan Paddling Club, and Marianas Pacific Paddlers.

The teams from Guam include

of ACS (24:33.83 for 78th place) and Aubrey White of SIS (25:19.94 for 93rd place) contributed strong finishes, helping solidify the team's standing. Rest of the NMA girls runners were ACS' Ruishi Zhu: (25:39.3 for 100th place) and Jiamei Hong (25:51.06 for 103rd place) and SIS' Julie Chavez (26:24.4 for 16th place).

Just like the boys, the race was a learning experience for the NMI girls with the crush of larger, aggressive packs, making it difficult to find their rhythm and positioning in such a competitive field. Despite this challenge, the athletes showcased resilience and determination, pushing through the crowded course to achieve great results.

The NMI's strong presence extended to the open category, where individual athletes and coaches also delivered remarkable performances. Landon Taflinger placed third overall with a personal best time of 19:41.11, closely

followed by Ruizhe Zhu in fourth place with a time of 20:04.12. Lang Yang secured sixth place, finishing at 20:23.93. NMI Head coach Ronald Snyder showed his own competitive spirit, finishing the race with a time of 26:56.96.

The rest of the open participants were Chad Taflinger (22:48.3), Catherine Pan (25:46.1), Joanna Pang (27:03.4), coach Angela Taflinger (27:11.6), and Jian Chung (27:16.5)

With 37 schools and 400 athletes (220 boys and 180 girls) competing, this year's Asia Pacific Invitational was the largest in its history. The sheer magnitude of the event made the races more competitive than ever, and Team NMI's strong showing amidst this heightened intensity speaks to their growth and determination.

Team NMI continues to represent the Northern Mariana Islands with pride and heart, building on their successes as they look forward to the Team Relay competition on Day 2. **(PR)**

Animun Tasi, Bihun Tasi, Haggan Jrs., Maneran Galaide, Napu, PFM, Poksai Canoe Club, Puti'on Tasi, and Taotao Galaide.

The lone team from the Republic of Marshall Island that made the long trip to Saipan is the Majol Canoe Paddling Club.

NMNPSF would like to thank the following sponsors: Tan Holdings, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Crowne Plaza, IT&E, MARPAC, Marianas Visitors Authority, Turnkey Solutions, The Athlete's Foot, Paradise Realty Saipan, Marianas Pacific Paddlers, Micronesia Brokers, H.K. Pangelinan & Associates, LLC, Coca Cola, UR Tents, Northern Marianas College's media team, Hafa Adai Rent A Car, and Herman's Bakery.

Special thanks to the Saipan Mayor's Office, Department of Fire and Emergency Management Services, Division of Parks & Recreations, Rep. John Paul Sablan (Ind-Saipan), Vince Castro, Next Level Media CNMI, Christopher Toto, Angie Yaromard, CNMI Designs, KKMP, Pacific Development, Inc., Chamolinian Cultural Village Inc., Wiski Services, 500 Sails, Pualani Crown, Mariana Islands Nature Alliance, I Napu Dance Group, Da Kine, Tipi-yew Bwiibwis, and Asia Hilario.

## TRENCH

From page 16

grown and shown significant improvement in their physical and mental development, not just in the gym but in life in general. We felt it was time to reward and award them for all their hard work and sacrifice they chose to make in order to become a better version of themselves on their BJJ journey."

He emphasized the long-term goal for students, saying "Don't stop training until your belt color turns black."

Alvarez highlighted the team's growing sense of unity, adding "They continue to reach their goals, one small milestone at a time, and in that respect, it shows in the mat culture at the gym. We have also become closer as a team and will continue to help build each other up and help each other climb the ranks in the years to come."

The promotions not only reflect individual achievements, but also the strength of the community at Trench Tech, with Roberto traveling to Saipan to preside over the ceremony.

## NMI

From page 16

Saipan Southern High School's Simon Tang finished in 85th place after crossing the finish line in 20:12.5.

Despite their excellent finishes, the NMI athletes were challenged by the sheer size of the race packs—something they had not previously experienced. Navigating through such a large and competitive field, with the push and shove of 200 athletes jockeying for position, made it difficult for them to find their place early in the race.

The girls team delivered a strong effort as well, finishing 12th overall with 279 points. SIS Geckos Kaithlyn Chavez and Addalee Taflinger led the way for the girls, with Chavez securing 18th place in a time of 22:33.71 and Taflinger followed closely behind in 20th place, setting a PR with her time of 22:37.02. Zhaoyu Shen

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NFL STANDINGS

#### AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	5	2	0	.714	199	136
Miami	2	4	0	.333	70	129
N.Y. Jets	2	5	0	.286	128	145
New England	1	6	0	.143	99	175

South						
Houston	5	2	0	.714	165	159
Indianapolis	4	3	0	.571	155	149
Jacksonville	2	5	0	.286	145	194
Tennessee	1	5	0	.167	106	144

North						
Baltimore	5	2	0	.714	218	180
Pittsburgh	5	2	0	.714	161	101
Cincinnati	3	4	0	.429	178	166
Cleveland	1	6	0	.143	109	162

West						
Kansas City	6	0	0	1.000	146	103
Denver	4	3	0	.571	145	106
L.A. Chargers	3	3	0	.500	106	83
Las Vegas	2	5	0	.286	124	183

### NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East						
Washington	5	2	0	.714	218	152
Philadelphia	4	2	0	.667	134	115
Dallas	3	3	0	.500	126	168
N.Y. Giants	2	5	0	.286	99	149

South						
Atlanta	4	3	0	.571	163	169
Tampa Bay	4	3	0	.571	209	182
New Orleans	2	5	0	.286	177	180
Carolina	1	6	0	.143	110	243

North						
Detroit	5	1	0	.833	182	120
Minnesota	5	1	0	.833	168	107
Green Bay	5	2	0	.714	186	143
Chicago	4	2	0	.667	148	101

West						
Seattle	4	3	0	.571	180	164
Arizona	3	4	0	.429	150	178
San Francisco	3	4	0	.429	180	158
L.A. Rams	2	4	0	.333	114	154

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





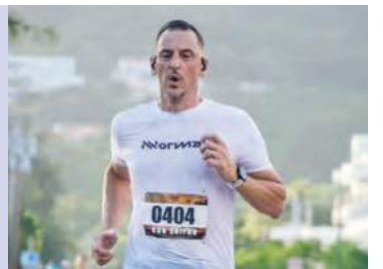
**Jackson leads streaking Ravens to win vs. Buccaneers**

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

**Register for the 2nd Veterans Day 5K**

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16 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2024

SAIPAN TRIBUNE



LEIGH GASES

Marianas Outrigger Club V6 women's team poses with their coach Jason Tarkong, far right last Saturday during the 24th Micronesian Cup Canoe Race at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.



LEIGH GASES

Marianas Pacific Paddlers V6 women's team poses for a group photo last Saturday during the 24th Micronesian Cup Canoe Race at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.



LEIGH GASES

Marianas Pacific Paddlers V6 men's team poses for a group photo last Saturday during the 24th Micronesian Cup Canoe Race at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

## Saipan paddlers dominate long distance races

By LEIGH GASES

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REPORTER

**C**NMI's paddlers made a big splash in the return of the Micronesia Cup Canoe Race to Saipan as they wrapped up the 24th edition with a dominant performance in long distance races on the final day last Sunday in the waters of Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

The long-distance courses featured a 10-mile course for V6 open men and open women divisions; an 8-mile course for V6 masters and open mix, and a 7.4-mile course for V6 juniors and V1 divisions.

The up-and-coming young

paddlers from Saipan Paddling Club showed out once again as SPC 2 won gold in the V6 junior mix finals with a time of 8:49.86. Silver went to SPC 1 at 9:43.93, while Guam's Haggan Junior won bronze at 10:04.97.

SPC's junior women V6 team



LEIGH GASES

Some members of the Saipan Pacific Paddlers V6 men's team pose for a group photo last Saturday during the 24th Micronesian Cup Canoe Race at the Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan.

blew everyone out of the water in their race with their time of 1:12:08.30. Silver was Guam's Puti'on Tasi at 1:14:36.40, and bronze went to Guam's Taotao Galaide at 1:20:40.30

In the V6 junior men's finals, SPC churned water like there's no tomorrow and bagged gold after they clocked in at 1:03:18.60. Silver went

See **PADDLERS** on Page 15

## NMI x-country runners stand out at biggest Asia Pacific Invitational



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The start of the girls race in the 2024 Asia Pacific Invitational Cross Country Championship last Monday at Resol no Mori, Japan.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The start of the boys race in the 2024 Asia Pacific Invitational Cross Country Championship last Monday at Resol no Mori, Japan.

The rhythmic pounding of nearly a thousand feet hitting the ground echoed like a stampede of horses racing across the plains, as the largest Asia Pacific Invitational in history brought together 400 athletes from 37 schools last Monday at Resol no Mori, Japan.



Against the backdrop of fierce competition, Team NMI rose to the challenge, delivering personal bests and strong team finishes in an event that will be remembered for its intensity and spirit.

The boys team stood tall, earning an impressive seventh place overall with a

score of 202 points. Jireh Wang of Agape Christian School led the charge, racing to 25th place with a time of 18:57.51, setting a personal record. Victor Nash Santos of Saipan International School wasn't far behind, crossing the line in 27th place with a time of 19:02.02.

Teammates Michael Miller and Takeru Jin of Marianas High School also turned in strong performances, placing 37th and 51st, respectively, followed by Ziheng Cai of ACS in 65th place. ACS' James Fan came in at 66th place with a time of 19:49.4, while

See **NMI** on Page 15

## Trench Tech promotes 7 BJJ students

By JERCY DIANA MAXIMO

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CORRESPONDENT

Eight Brazilian jiu jitsu practitioners of Trench Tech Purebred Saipan were promoted to new belt ranks, recognizing their hard work, consistency, and perseverance.

The event, held this past Thursday at the Trench Tech Gym, was overseen by professor Steven Roberto, owner of Purebred Schools in Guam and renowned jiu jitsu instructor, who taught both Justis "Cuki" Alvarez, the founder of Trench Tech, and professional fighter Frank "The Crank" Camacho.

The ceremony saw participants promoted across several belt levels, from white to blue, blue to purple, and purple to brown. Among those recognized was a juvenile, Gabriel "Gabel



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Kier Agda, Isaiah Sablan, coach Rey Kim, Giovonni Taitinfong, Jason Artero, Mariana Alvarez, Mike Atoigue pose for a photo during Brazilian jiu jitsu belt promotion ceremony last Thursday at the Trench Tech Gym.

Grip" Mitchell, aged 14, who was promoted from juvenile white belt to orange/white belt.

Also promoted from white to blue belt were Jason Atrero, Isaiah Sablan,

Mariana Alvarez; from blue to purple belt Giovonni Taitinfong and Kier Agda, and Mike Atoigue from purple to brown belt.

Alvarez shared his thoughts on the significance of the

promotions: "They have dedicated their time and energy the last few years—4-5 days a week—to train and enhance their skills and techniques in the art of jiu jitsu. All have

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